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JACK SPARROW MARAUDS IN 3-D
AN EXCLUSIVE FIRST LOOK {page 23}

O: NO!
WINFREY SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT {page 24}

CALGARY metro®
Thursday, December 9, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

A sweet return for chocolatier

Bernard Callebaut launches new company, papa chocolat ◐ Already filling orders for holiday season ◐ Two corporate retail locations expected to open in March

JEREMY NOLAIS/FOR METRO

▶ Famed Calgary chocolate maker Bernard Callebaut is on the comeback trail, announcing a new venture at a private function last night.

Bernard Callebaut is back in the kitchen cooking up another recipe for sweet success.

The famed Belgian chocolatier of 27 years, who lives in the Calgary area, unveiled his new company, papa chocolat, just in time for the holidays at a private event last night.

"Today is a big day," he said. "It's happening, it's really happening. On the business side, I am really pumped up."

Callebaut's original creation, Chocolatier Bernard Callebaut, was sold away earlier this year after going into receivership. Now, with the assistance of local group Podium Ventures, the upbeat entrepreneur says he's been given a new lease on life.

"We're looking forward to the future and to celebrating new beginnings," he said. ● JEREMY NOLAIS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 4

Local

for longer bar hours

◐ Extended hours would be 'beneficial for whole industry'
◐ Proposal was put forward by police, will be discussed today {page 8}

The hottest young designers

Fashion forward for a new group with staying power {page 26}

Time is running out

Your gift guide for holiday shopping {pages 31-37}

Flames going down to Cali

Looking for consistency on road trip {page 39}

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*Items shown not included in the offer. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store.

Officer charged in pool altercation

Police charged one of their own yesterday after an off-duty officer was involved in an altercation at a public swimming pool.

Supt. Kevan Stuart explained an 11-year veteran of the Calgary Police Service was involved in an incident on June 9.

"The officer and a member of the public were sharing a swimming lane and made contact," said Stuart.

"A verbal altercation followed the incident."

According to Stuart, a family member of the other person involved in the incident put the complaint forward.

"It's my understanding that the officer didn't make known that he was a police officer at the time," said Stuart.

He said there were no injuries as a result of this altercation and added the member of the public involved in the incident was under 18.

The officer, whose name is not being released, was charged with assault and uttering threats.

"In the public interest, we see no purpose in naming the officer at this time."

Stuart said the officer is currently on regular days off and his work status will be determined later this week.

KATIE TURNER

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO

▶ Supt. Kevan Stuart said it's unclear what the charged officer's work status will be at this point.

Province's ORs get influx of cash

Government says the cash will allow for up to 5,000 additional surgeries to be performed next year

Alberta is injecting almost $17 million into its health system to open more operating rooms and reduce wait times for high-priority surgeries.

Such operations will include heart, cancer, gynecological and brain surgeries, as well as hip and knee replacements.

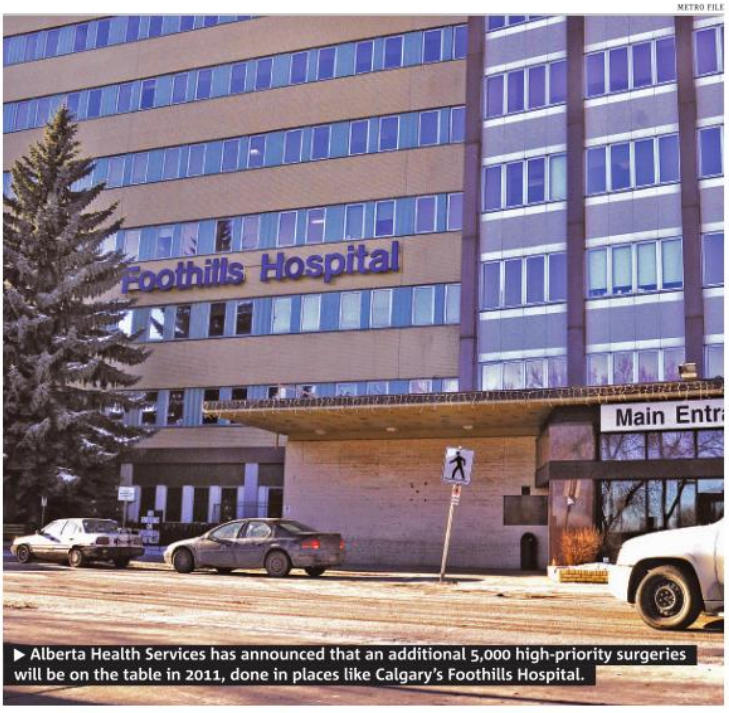
"Adding more surgeries is another measure to provide Albertans with better access to the health system," Health Minister Gene Zwozdesky said yesterday.

The move comes only days after Alberta Health Services leaders promised to deal more aggressively with emergency room and surgery backlogs that have created a political headache for the provincial government. The new money will open some mothballed hospital operating rooms and fund more surgeries in Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat.

"We are very pleased ... It will immediately allow us to address priority areas and tackle some important wait-list issues."
DR. JOHN KORTBEEK, ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

Officials said there are enough surgeons to perform the extra operations. But it was not immediately clear if there are enough nurses and other medical support staff to do the extra work. THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO FILE



▶ Alberta Health Services has announced that an additional 5,000 high-priority surgeries will be on the table in 2011, done in places like Calgary's Foothills Hospital.

Two Albertans among men arrested in child-porn sweep

Police have arrested 57 men, including one Calgarian, in the case of an international child porn ring.

Among the 25 Canadian men who have been arrested and charged is Daniel Clayton, 29, of Calgary and Andrew John Tettersell, 33, of Sylvan Lake.

Clayton, a former British special forces soldier, was initially arrested in April and charged with possession of child pornography and making child porn available. He has since pleaded not guilty.

25 The number of victims believed to be involved in the case. It's reported there are victims as young as two years old.

There were 26 men from the United States and six Europeans involved in the case, resulting in 218 charges being laid.

The international investigation — dubbed Project Sanctuary — was begun in November 2009.

METRO

News in brief

House fire kills 3 puppies

ANIMALS. A Calgary family is mourning the loss of three puppies after a kitchen fire broke out in a home on Chapelina Park Crescent SE yesterday morning.

Several people in the home at the time of the blaze managed to escape.

METRO

Bow Building to get accessory

ART. Calgary's largest piece of public art will reportedly rest in front of its tallest building.

A three-storey sculpture of a human head — called Wishing Well — has been commissioned to Spanish artist Jaume Plensa for the courtyard of Encana's Bow building, which is slated to open in 2012.

METRO

1 news

News on the move

1 Download the free ScanLife application with your smartphone at 2dscan.com

2 Use the ScanLife application on your smartphone to scan 2D barcodes in Metro

3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to relevant content at m.metronews.ca

On the web at metronews.ca

A freed Canadian hostage recounts his captivity in Nigeria. Video at metronews.ca

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With Arcade Fire topping charts and packing MSG, is it time to retire 'indie?' Scan code for story.

WEATHER RESEARCH

U of C makes gains in avalanche prediction

Researchers at the University of Calgary have developed new technology they believe will lead to better prediction of avalanches.

Using infrared cameras, experts have discovered they can now read temperatures of intricate layers within the snowpack.

The cameras will specifically target unstable crusts caused by layers of snow that have melted slightly, refrozen and then been buried.

"We generate terrain maps of where the snow might be warming up and these maps can help people choose the safest routes on a given day," said researcher Cora Shea. METRO

Police start holiday crackdowns

Calgary police have rolled out their daytime Checkstop program, aimed at cracking down on impaired drivers this holiday season.

Stops will be set up in random locations throughout the city from noon to 8 p.m., three days a week, until the end of the month. METRO

Habitat celebrates milestone

Calgary's Habitat for Humanity will be celebrating the construction of its 100th and 101st homes in Calgary during a special ceremony tomorrow.

Two duplexes in the southeast community of Elgin in Mackenzie Towne were built with co-sponsors Pace Oil and Daylight Energy. METRO

New chocolate outfit is 'easy on the tongue'

JEREMY NOLAIS/FOR METRO

▶ Bernard Callebaut and his oldest son Baudouin show the family spirit behind the resurrection of the chocolate-maker's business, during last night's launch of papa chocolat.

New chocolate company seeking $1.65 million in startup investments

He's been given a blank sheet, and now Bernard Callebaut can get back to doing what he does best: making chocolates.

After all, he says his two sons have "brown blood." They were the inspiration behind the name of his new company, papa chocolat.

"The name tells you it's a family business, which is very important to us," Callebaut said. "It's easy on the tongue, we like it."

The chocolate-maker admitted the past few months since Chocolatier Bernard Callebaut went into receivership in August have taken an emotional toll.

Now, Callebaut intends to take a step back from the boardroom and will appoint a five-member board of directors to oversee operations. "I can concentrate more on creating product, working on the production and also do educational work," he said. "People want to know more about chocolate and I love to talk about chocolate."

Orders can be placed at 403-538-2206.

JEREMY NOLAIS

"There wasn't a chocolate industry in Calgary before Bernard ... He brings something other than oil and gas and technology to this city."

CAMERON CHELL, PODIUM VENTURES PRESIDENT

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News in brief

CONTRIBUTED

▶Sherritt International Senior Vice President Robert J. Reid

Sherritt gives to STARS

Sherritt International announced yesterday a donation of $48,000 to the Alberta Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society (STARS) to help keep STARS in the sky.

"STARS contributes directly to our employees' safety and well being by ensuring we have rapid access to emergency care and transport in the areas where we operate," said Mark Plamondon, senior vice-president of Sherritt International.

METRO

Request for funds shelved

Alberta's Wildrose Alliance went to a legislature committee yesterday to get more research money, but later shelved the idea.

The Alliance sought $233,000 from an all-party committee, but the party backed away when it was suggested the money should come from the research budgets of all politicians — including other opposition parties.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

File employee issues online

Workers in Alberta can now go online to file complaints about employment standards.

Employment and Immigration Minister Thomas Lukaszuk says everyone, including temporary foreign workers, who work for pay in Alberta are entitled to the protection of the Employment Standards Act.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Restoring aircrafts project takes flight

Committee voted against selling one plane in exchange for restoration of another $1.6M project

KATIE TURNER
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

CONTRIBUTED

▶ A city committee is recommending council approve the restoration of two historic aircrafts, including the Mosquito pictured here, that are currently in the city's possession.

Airplane enthusiasts say a council committee's decision yesterday to recommend funding the restoration of two of Calgary's vintage aircrafts was a welcome surprise.

After years of ongoing debate, committee members made some headway in the decision to keep the City of Calgary's Hawker Hurricane and de Havilland Mosquito.

"We need to do something, we can't just keep putting it off, so I'm feeling that we have to involve the volunteer sector," said Ald. Jim Stevenson, who put forward a motion to fund up to $800,000 of the restoration and have the rest matched by volunteer groups.

Committee members adopted the idea and it will now be brought to council for approval.

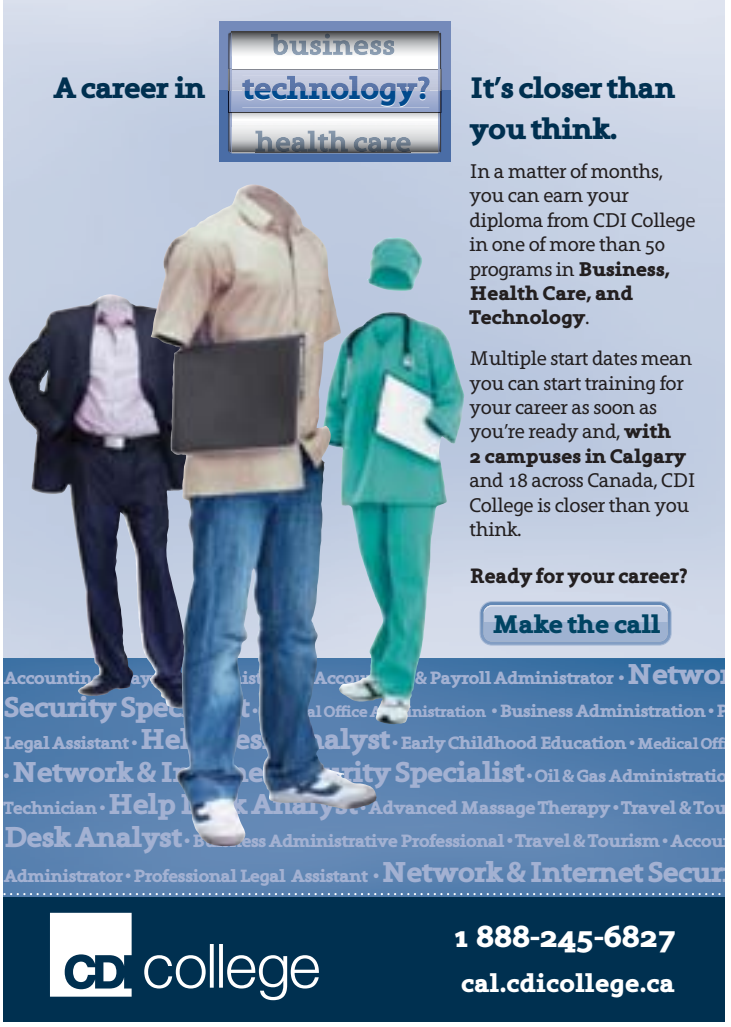
"This is an absolute bonus," said Richard De Boer, founder of the Calgary Mosquito Aircraft Society. "We were completely prepared to go this alone financially."

Lucile Edwards, CEO of the Aerospace Museum, said she was initially for the sale of the Mosquito but is pleased the planes will stay in Calgary.

"They're great airplanes ... having a Mosquito, a Hurricane and a Lancaster bomber is a great story."

If approved...

- If approved, the city will put out a request for proposals to find a group that can properly restore the planes.
- They will be repaired to display quality but will not be able to fly.
- English engineer Peter Vacher had put forward a proposal to the city offering to restore the Hurricane in exchange for the Mosquito.
- He also offered a donation of $1 million.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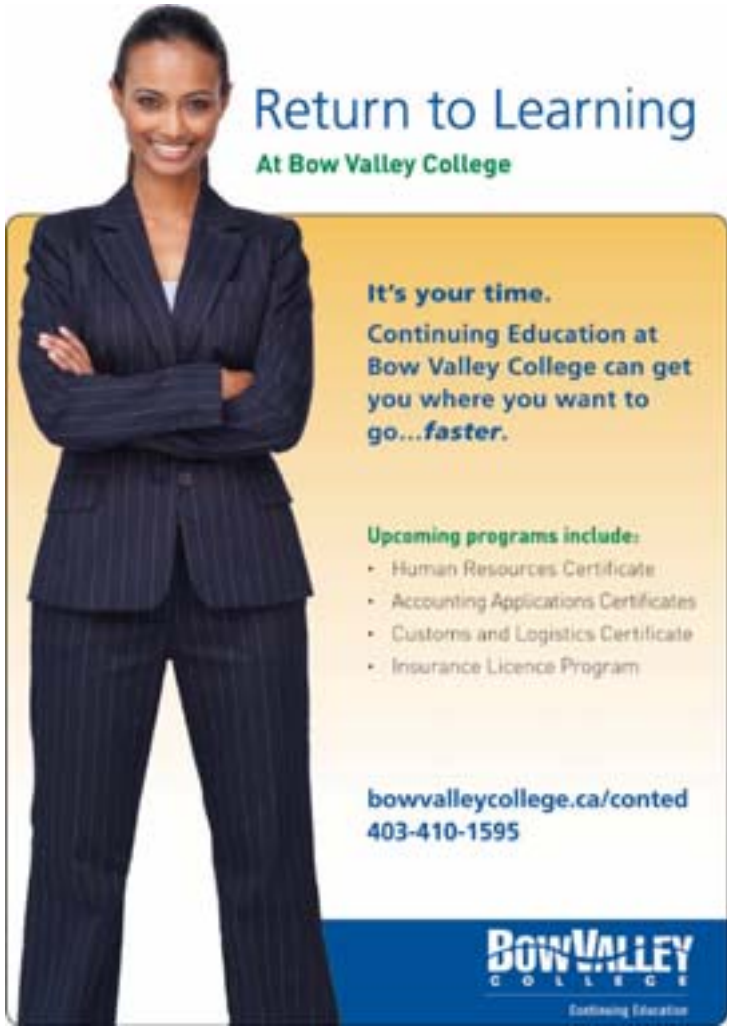

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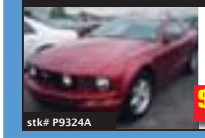
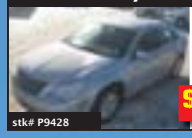
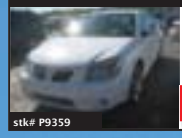
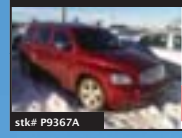

$18,995
300hp 4.6L V8, A/C, Cruise, PW, PL, 43,000kms
$173 bi-weekly[1]
stk# P9324A

2010 Chrysler Sebring LX

$13,995
Automatic, A/C, Cruise, PW, PL, 32,000kms
$119 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9428

2007 Pontiac G5 GT

$10,998
Manual, 68,000km, A/C, Cruise, PW, PL, CD
$106 bi-weekly[1]
stk# P9359

2006 Chevrolet HHR

$16,995
$179 bi-weekly[3]
stk# P9367A

2009 Pontiac G6 SE

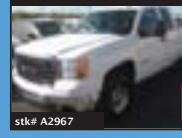
$14,995
$129 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9381

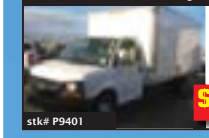
2010 Buick Lucerne CXL

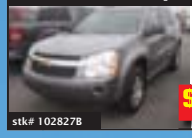
$29,995
Loaded with heated leather seats, Automatic, 30,000km
$237 bi-weekly[2]
stk# U0187

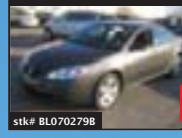
2010 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE

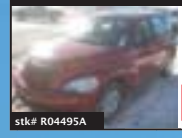
$28,995
Crew Cab, 4x4, CD/MP3, 25,000km
$229 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9412

2008 GMC Sierra 2500

$34,995
Diesel, Extended Cab, 4x4
$308 bi-weekly[1]
stk# A2967

2007 Chevy Cube Van

$23,995
$209 bi-weekly[1]
stk# P9401

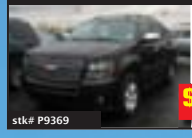
2006 Chevy Equinox LS

$16,995
All Wheel Drive, One Calgary Owner
$179 bi-weekly[3]
stk# 102827B

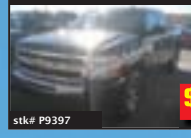
2007 Pontiac G6

$11,995
One Calgary Owner, Auto, PW, PL, A/C, Cruise
$115 bi-weekly[1]
stk# BL070279B

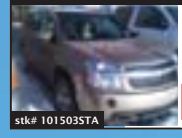
2009 Chrysler PT Cruiser LX

$9,995
$98 bi-weekly[1]
stk# R04495A

2008 Chevy Malibu LS

$14,995
Auto, A/C, PW, PL, Cruise
$149 bi-weekly[1]
stk# U0168

2007 Chevy Avalanche LTZ

$31,888
Leather
$299 bi-weekly[1]
stk# P9369

2010 Chev Silverado 1500 LT

$28,995
Crew Cab, 4x4, PW, PL, CD
$229 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9397

2007 Chevy Equinox LT

$19,995
AWD, Leather, 57,000km
$182 bi-weekly[1]
stk# 101503STA

2009 Cadillac SRX

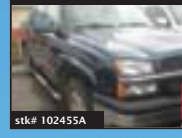
$29,995
Heated/Power Leather Seats, One Owner, Fleet Return
$259 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9322

2008 GMC Sierra 1500

$22,995
Extended Cab, 4x4, 39,000km
$199 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9334

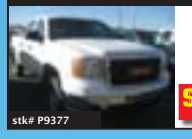
2009 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE

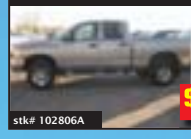
$27,995
Extended Cab, 4x4, One Calgary owner
$222 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9387

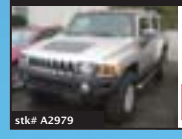
2006 Chev Avalanche LTZ

$22,995
Leather, 97,000km
$207 bi-weekly[1]
stk# 102455A

2008 Dodge Ram 2500 SXT

$37,995
6.7L Diesel, Crew Cab, 4x4
$333 bi-weekly[1]
stk# A2983

2009 GMC Sierra 2500 SLT

$31,995
Crew Cab, 4x4
$252 bi-weekly[2]
stk# P9377

2005 Dodge Ram 2500 SLT

$27,995
Diesel, Crew Cab, 4x4
$287 bi-weekly[3]
stk# 102806A

2007 Hummer H3

$24,995
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$224 bi-weekly[1]
stk# A2979

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JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ City cabbies think extending bar hours might curb the push to grab a cab after last call.

Last call for cabbies

President of Associated Cabs says the whole industry could benefit if bars stayed opened past 3 a.m. Patrons complain they cannot get a ride

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Local taxi driver Beyene Ferede has been on the receiving end of frustrated comments from bar patrons unable to get a ride home in the past.

That's why he's in favour of extending the closing times of local licensed establishments past 3 a.m. — a proposal that has been put forward by Calgary police and will be discussed with establishment owners during a meeting today.

"Everybody wants a cab and we can't service everybody," Ferede said. "But if it's extended it would be better for the customers, they won't have to rush."

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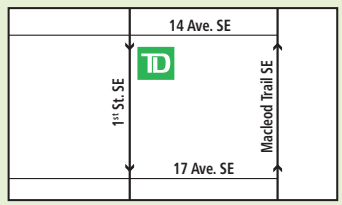

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Fire chief gets green light for changes

$1.55 The cost per square foot to install a residential sprinkler system in a new home in Calgary is $1.55 to $2.12, as determined by local contractors.

Calgary's fire chief was given the go-ahead to continue lobbying to change the safety code by members of the Community and Protective Services committee yesterday.

"Those recommendations, I believe, tell us to continue to follow the path that we have been following, which is trying to influence code changes at both the federal and provincial level," said fire Chief Bruce Burrell.

Burrell said one of the most important changes that needs to be made to the code in his mind would be making residential sprinklers in new homes mandatory. He said making it optional to install a sprinkler would have very little impact.

"I would say (the province is) interested. We're not the only fire department in Canada or in Alberta that is talking to provincial officials about residential sprinklers," he said.

Stan Schwartzenberger with development and building approvals for the City of Calgary said those changes will take a long time but are necessary.

"It takes multiple years to enable those changes, and for good reason," he said. "We need that flexibility in the code now to make a Calgary-based solution to the issues we see emerging." KATIE TURNER

ALTALINK

Power line gets mapped

A controversial power transmission line from Calgary-based AltaLink had its path charted out yesterday, as the company outlined its preferred and alternate routes for the new project.

The proposed $1 billion line will start near Genesee at the power generation centre — west of Edmonton — and go directly south and then cutting east across Highway 2 north of Crossfield en route to the Langdon area, east of Calgary.

The alternate route has the line crossing Highway 2 much further north, in the Ponoka area.

The new line is expected to carry a 500-kilovolt direct current. METRO

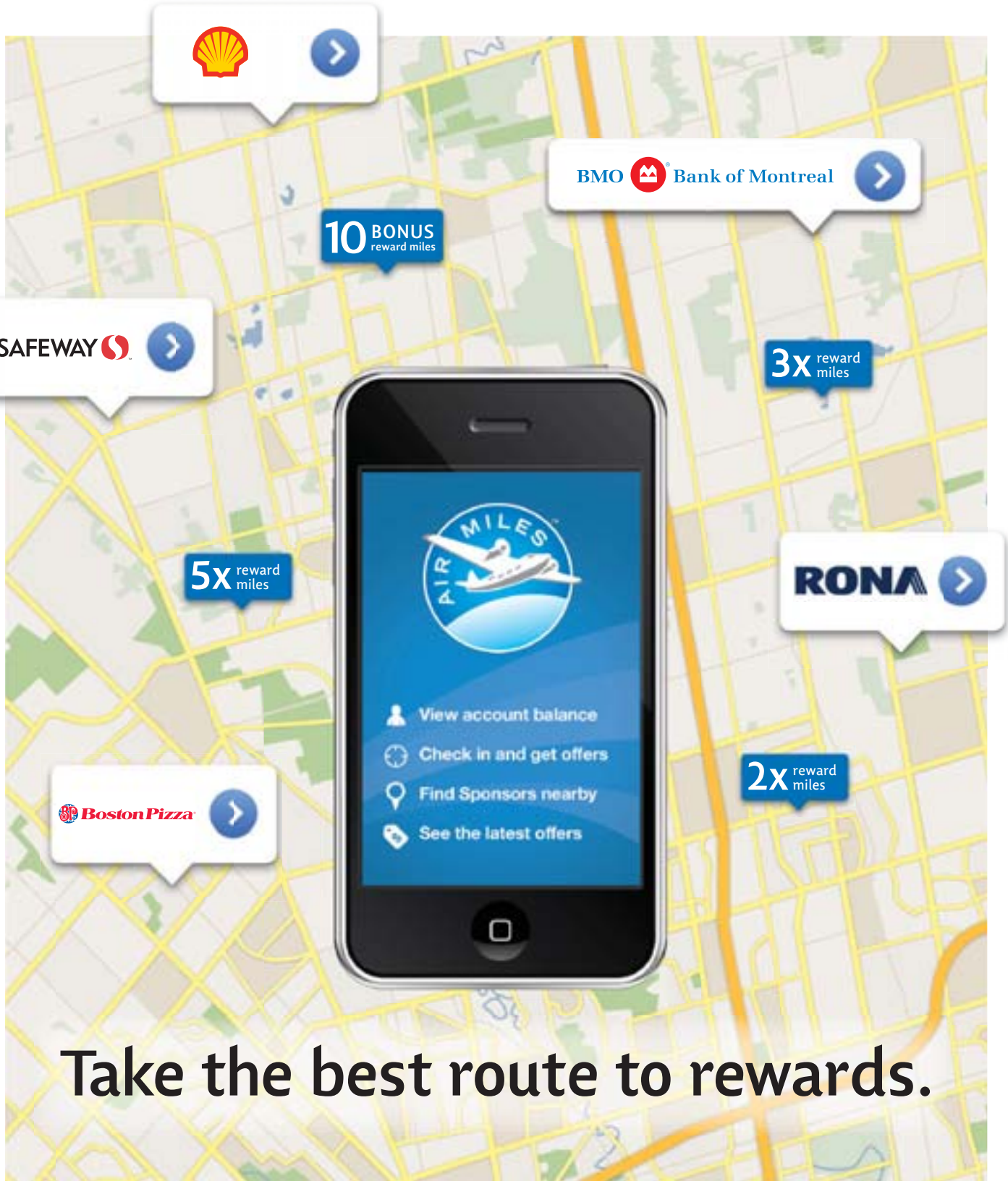
November housing starts down

New figures from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation say housing starts in the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area dropped to 555 units in November, compared with 832 in 2009. But housing starts up to and including November, are up: 8,776 in 2010, compared with 5,661 in the same period last year. METRO

Kingsland opens for Christmas

Starting today Kingsland Farmers' Market will open its doors for the Christmas season.

"We wanted Calgary to enjoy a Kingsland Family Christmas and it was important for us to be part of the community at this special time of year," said Kingsland Farmers' Market's Tim Hoven. METRO



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LEAKED FILES

Havoc on the web as Wiki lovers fight back

Hackers rushed to the defence of WikiLeaks yesterday, launching attacks on MasterCard, Visa, Swedish prosecutors, a Swiss bank and others who have acted against the website and its jailed founder Julian Assange.

Internet "hacktivists" operating under the label Operation Payback claimed responsibility in a Twitter message for causing severe technological problems at the website for MasterCard.

MasterCard acknowledged "a service disruption."

But spokesperson James Issokson said consumers could still use their credit cards for secure transactions.

Later yesterday, Visa's website was inaccessible.

Meanwhile, Australia's foreign minister, Kevin Rudd, said: Don't blame WikiLeaks for the international fuss.

Rudd said the blame lies with the leaker and the U.S. government's failure to protect its secrets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jail blaze kills 81: Were firefighters kept out?

ALIOSHA MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Relatives of prisoners at San Miguel prison weep and scream as the names of inmates are read out after the devastating blaze.

Jail police 'closed the gates to firemen'

Some relatives of inmates at Santiago's San Miguel prison told state TV that jail police initially closed the gates to firefighters, impeding efforts to control the blaze.

"They wouldn't let the firefighters come in. The riot police came in first and began to beat us, and later the firefighters came in," a prisoner said in a call played on state TV. He didn't give his name, saying he feared retribution.

He said guards "laughed and took photos with the cellphones of the inmates who were vomiting (from smoke) ... and didn't do anything."

But fire Chief Jose Sanchez denied firefighters were kept from entering. Guards "facilitated the firemen's entrance to the damaged area."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fatal fire at overcrowded jail in Chile

A fire started during an inmate brawl swept through an overcrowded prison in Santiago, Chile, yesterday, killing at least 81 people and seriously injuring 14.

A prisoner using an illegal cellphone called state television pleading for help — and the screams of inmates briefly aired across Chile.

Hundreds of anxious and angry relatives of inmates gathered in a chaotic scene outside the prison gates.

It was supposed to be visitors' day at the prison, so many family members were already lining up outside when the fire broke out.

Their anxiety spilled over when they learned that prisoners were killed.

Some broke down in tears and screams, while others threw rocks at national prison police director Luis Masferrer as he read survivors' names over a megaphone.

The fire in San Miguel prison began during fighting between inmates and reached its maximum intensity in just three minutes, Interior Minister Rodribo Hinzpeter said.

Investigator Alejandro Pena said preliminary reports indicated the fire was set intentionally.

"The conditions that existed inside this prison are absolutely inhumane."
CHILEAN PRESIDENT SEBASTIAN PINERA

A fire department communiqué said the first firefighters arrived on the scene nine minutes after the initial alarm and found a violent fire spread over a large part of the fourth floor of Tower 5.

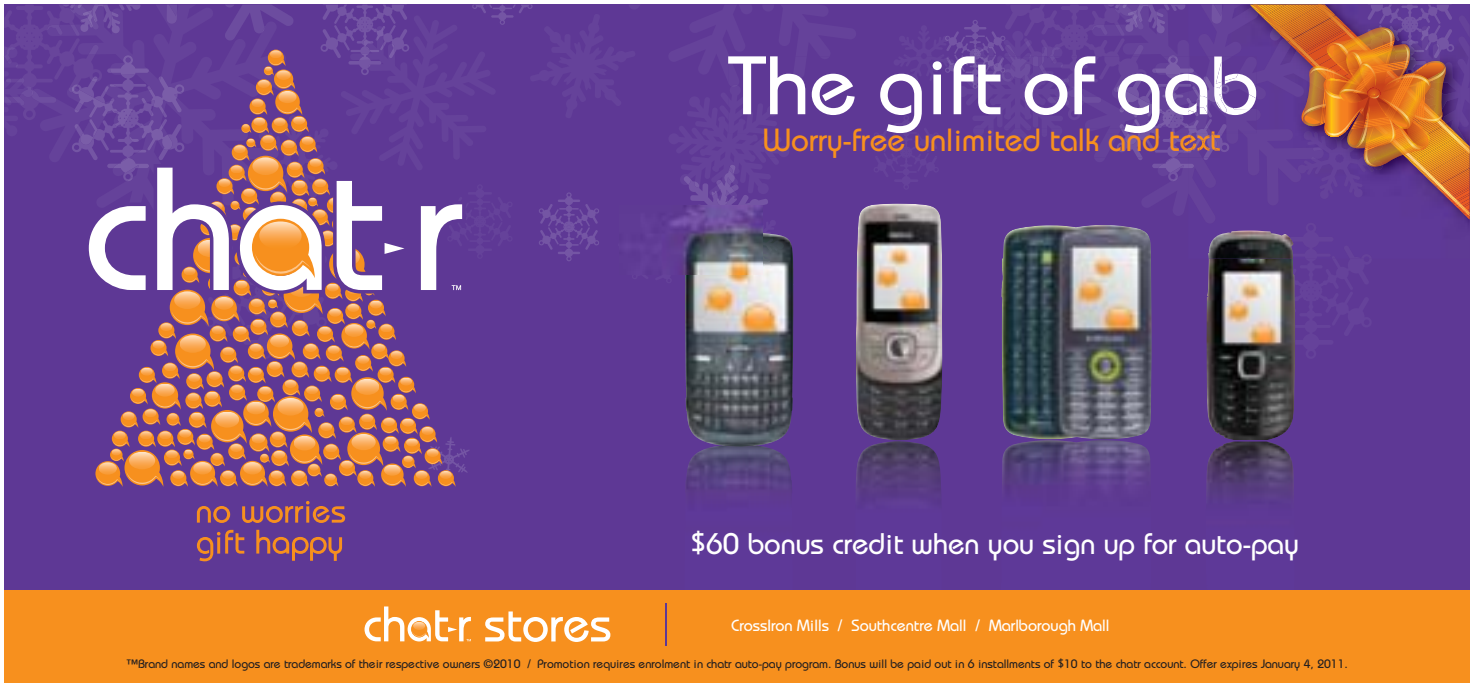
They cut through several locks, allowing them to save 60 inmates.

Officials had identified 31 of the victims by last night, with many of the bodies unrecognizable.

Officials said most will have to be identified by DNA.

Health Minister Jaime Manalich called it an "enormous calamity" and the worst in the history of Chile's prison system.

A fire in a northern prison killed 26 people in 2001. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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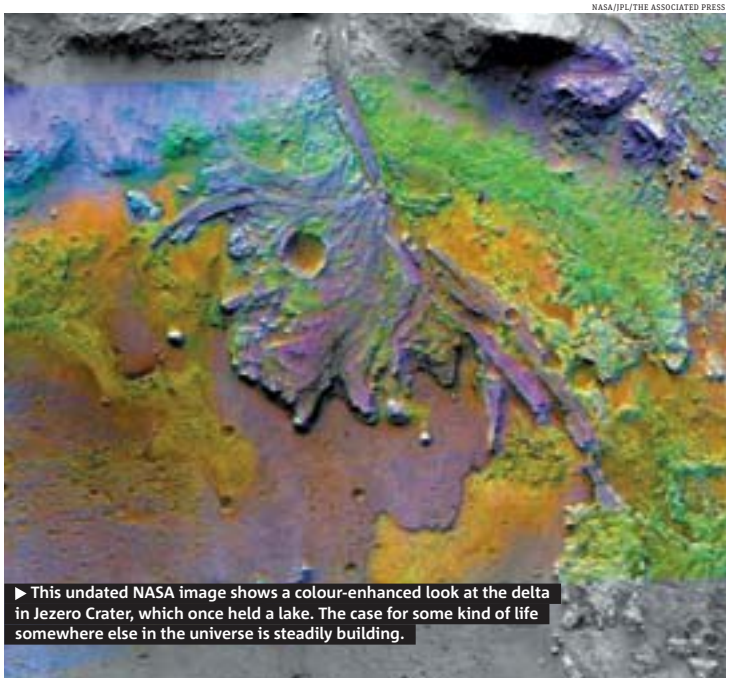

▶ This undated NASA image shows a colour-enhanced look at the delta in Jezero Crater, which once held a lake. The case for some kind of life somewhere else in the universe is steadily building.

Research points toward alien life

‘The evidence is just getting stronger and stronger,’ says NASA director

More likely slime mould than E.T.

A handful of new discoveries makes it seem more likely that we are not alone — that there is life somewhere else in the universe.

In the past several days, scientists have reported there are three times as many stars as they previously thought. Another group of researchers discovered a microbe can live on arsenic, expanding our understanding of how life can thrive under the harshest environments.

Earlier this year, astronomers for the first time said they had found a potentially habitable planet.

“I think anybody looking at this evidence is going to say, ‘There’s got to be life out there,’” said Carl Pilcher, director of NASA’s Astrobiology Institute, which studies the origins, evolution and possibilities of life in the universe.

First contact?

Mars is the most likely candidate for alien life. Any life is probably underground where there is water, astronomers say.

▶ **Other possibilities** include the moons of Jupiter and Saturn.

At its most simplistic core, the scientific calculations hinge on two basic factors: How many places out there can support life? And how hard is it for life to take root?

Last week’s findings increased the number of potential homes for life and broadened the definition of what life is. It means the probability for alien life is higher than ever, agree 10 scientists interviewed by The Associated Press.

A caveat: Since much of this research is new, scientists are still debating how solid the conclusions are.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPACE LAUNCH

One small step for a company

For the first time ever, a private company has launched a spacecraft into orbit and then guided it back to Earth.

The capsule belonging to Space Exploration Technologies Corp. — known as SpaceX — splashed down into the Pacific on yesterday afternoon. It was launched three hours earlier from Cape Canaveral atop the company’s Falcon 9 rocket.

NASA ordered up the demonstration as a first step to handing over space station supply runs and, eventually, astronaut rides to private businesses.

Until now, only governments had managed to recover spacecraft re-entering from orbit. SpaceX’s spacecraft, called Dragon, circled the Earth twice before parachuting into the Pacific upon command.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan loses precious probe

A Japanese probe to Venus failed to reach orbit yesterday and was captured by the sun’s gravitational pull in a setback to Japan’s shoestring space program, which will have to wait six years to try again.

The failure in the crucial orbital insertion stage of the probe was a big letdown for Japan, which has never succeeded in an interplanetary mission.

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Struggle with guards killed man, judge rules

Nova Scotia man 'did not die because he was mentally ill': Inquiry head Restraint technique blamed

The head of an inquiry into the jail cell death of a mentally ill Nova Scotia man has rejected a medical examiner's conclusion that he died of excited delirium.

Howard Hyde's death was caused by a struggle with jail guards, the judge's report said yesterday. The report said the guards' restraint technique played a role in Hyde's death in 2007.

Provincial court judge Anne Derrick said Hyde, a 45-year-old musician diagnosed with schizophrenia in his 20s, was in the midst of a psychotic episode when he was forced to lie on his stomach with his

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Howard Hyde

hands behind his back. That position may have interfered with his ability to breathe.

"The only useful approach is to understand that Mr. Hyde died because of physiological changes in his body brought on by an intense struggle involving restraint," Derrick wrote.

"He did not die because he was mentally ill."

Hyde's story attracted national attention because he had been Tasered up to five times by Halifax police about 30 hours before he died. But Derrick's 460-page report clearly says the repeated Tasering did not cause Hyde's death.

Stephen Ayer, executive director of Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia, said his group supports Derrick's call for an increase in funding for mental health services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Haiti. Thousands take to the streets

▶ People flee flames stoked by a burning car on a street in Port-au-Prince.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flames of anger

The headquarters of Haiti's ruling party were set ablaze yesterday as protests over disputed presidential election results spread through the Haitian capital. Thousands took to the streets, furious that government-backed candidate Jude Celestin, the protegé of unpopular president René Preval, apparently will go to a run-off vote.

Disfigured Afghan cover girl's kin held

The father-in-law of a disfigured Afghan woman whose photo was featured on a Time magazine cover has been arrested, officials say.

A Taliban commander acting as a judge ordered the woman's nose and ears sliced off last year as punishment for fleeing her husband's home, said Time's story in August and other accounts.

Just 18 years old at the time, Aisha said she fled to escape her in-laws' beatings and abuse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The accused

- Aisha's father-in-law was arrested in southern Afghanistan, an Interior Ministry aide said.
- He was being held in jail in Uruzgan province.
- It was not immediately clear if he had been charged.

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TIM HALES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ John Lennon fans mark the 30th anniversary of Lennon's death with a candlelit vigil at the European Peace Monument, dedicated to Lennon, in Liverpool, England, yesterday.

'We still learn so much from him today': Ono

In interview, Lennon mused he had 'plenty of time' to achieve goals, just days before being gunned down

John Lennon's fans celebrated his life yesterday by visiting Strawberry Fields, the Central Park garden dedicated in his honour, while a newly released interview he gave shortly before his death showed he was optimistic about his future.

On the 30th anniversary of Lennon's murder outside his Manhattan apartment building, admirers played his music nearby at Strawberry Fields and placed flowers on a mosaic named for his song Imagine.

The steady stream of visitors represented the range of people who love Lennon, from those who watched his career unfold as it happened to those who know only his music.

Father-daughter pair Paul DeLuca, 50, and Marissa DeLuca, 17, came from Boston to mark the day.

"I grew up with his voice," said Marissa DeLuca. "The Beatles are the soundtrack to my childhood."

"I've never claimed to have the answers to life. I only put out songs and answer questions as honestly as I can ... But I still believe in peace, love and understanding."
JOHN LENNON, IN HIS FINAL INTERVIEW

In Liverpool, where Lennon was from, hundreds were expected to gather for a vigil yesterday around the Peace and Harmony sculpture, recently unveiled by Lennon's former wife, Cynthia, and their son Julian in Chavasse Park.

In the newly released interview, conducted just three days before he was gunned down, John Lennon complained about his critics — saying they were just interested in "dead heroes."

The interview, believed to be his last print interview, was released yesterday to The Associated Press by Rolling Stone magazine, which uses the full interview for a story that will be on stands tomorrow.

While brief excerpts of Jonathan Cott's interview were released for a 1980 Rolling Stone cover story days after Lennon's death, this is the first time the entire interview has been published.

"His words are totally joyous and vibrant and hopeful and subversive and fearless," Cott told the AP on Tuesday. "He didn't mince words."

Yoko Ono released a statement Tuesday night in tribute to Lennon.

"On this tragic anniversary please join me in remembering John with deep love and respect," she said.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANITOBA

Polar bears feeling the heat

Scientists say polar bear moms and their cubs near Churchill in northern Manitoba are suffering the worst effects of a late freeze-up of sea ice on Hudson Bay.

The bears are just now setting out for the sea ice they use as a hunting platform for seals, said Andrew Derocher, a University of Alberta researcher. That's weeks later than usual — and comes on top of an early spring thaw that drove the bears off hunting ground nearly a month sooner than usual.

"This year's been pretty challenging on the population," said Derocher from Inuvik, N.W.T.

"Some of these bears have had a very long on-land period. A lot of the bears are just running out of steam."

Polar bears tend not to hunt during the summer, which they spend on land. They can burn up to a kilogram of fat a day as they wait to return to the sea ice. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Senate kills bill on benefits protection

The Conservative-controlled Senate has killed a bill that would have protected former Nortel employees from losing long-term disability benefits. Disabled employees predict, if denied benefits, they will face a bleak future full of illness, poverty, homelessness and even suicide. Without the bill, benefits will cease at the end of the month.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Nobel snub brings heat on Serbia

Bilateral relations with China takes priority: Serbian minister

Serbia's decision to boycott the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony honouring imprisoned Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo triggered criticism yesterday from human rights activists and the European Union — which expressed shock that the candidate for EU entry would meet China's demands.

China has vilified the 54-year-old democracy advocate Liu, called the Nobel prize choice an effort by the West to contain its rise, disparaged his supporters as "clowns," and launched a campaign to persuade countries not to attend Friday's ceremony in Oslo.

Eighteen countries, including Serbia, Russia and Pakistan, have turned down the Nobel committee's invitation to send representatives to the ceremony.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kosovo

Serbia fears its attendance could anger China, which has supported Belgrade in its opposition to Kosovan independence.

- **Majority** Some 70 nations, including the U.S. and most EU states, have recognized Kosovo's statehood.
- **Support** Russia and China have stood firm in supporting Serbia in its claim over the territory.

Tragedy. Bangladesh

▶ Local people crowd the site of a train accident in Narsingdi district, about 40 kilometres east of Dhaka, Bangladesh yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Train collision kills 19

A speeding train slammed into another moving slowly through a station in eastern Bangladesh yesterday, killing as many as 19 people and injuring scores more, according to officials and news reports.

Budget will be no Christmas Carol

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty says he is prepared to shift money from one area of the budget to something else with a more pressing need, but overall spending won't got up significantly.

He says the government's highest priority is to rein in the record $55.6-billion deficit.

Although no official date has been released, the budget is expected in March. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK /THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jim Flaherty

"I'm not Santa Claus, but no Scrooge either."
FINANCE MINISTER JIM FLAHERTY

Facebook names newborn

Facebook users let their fingers do the talking and have selected the first name of a Toronto newborn by a razor-thin margin.

New mom Rommy Alpinelli decided to leave things to chance, or more specifically, in the virtual hands of Facebook users and online voters, to help select the first name of her firstborn child, a baby girl.

The name "Melania" came out on top in the online poll organized by Canadian social commerce site FabFind.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

09 **Just nine votes separated the winning name of "Melania," with a total of 2,860, and second-placed "Aria."**

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T.O. chief admits he misunderstood secret G20 law

Ontario premier declines to offer a full apology for what ombudsman called a mass violation of civil rights

Toronto police Chief Bill Blair says his force has identified at least five officers involved in the controversial arrest of a man who suffered facial fractures at the G20 summit.

Blair said his force is doing everything it can to get to the truth, and if there is evidence of misconduct among his officers it will be dealt with.

The police chief has come under increasing fire in the wake of an investigation into the injuries sustained on June 26 by Adam Nobody, and a damning ombudsman report on the so-called secret G20 law.

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

▶ Adam Nobody

Confusion surrounding the updated law led the public to believe police had the power to demand identification and detain people coming within five metres of the security fence. In fact, the law only applied inside the fence.

Blair, speaking in Victoria yesterday, said he honestly believed, based on legal advice, that the law included the area five metres outside the fence.

He said when he found out the truth he immediately told his officers, but regrets not having told the public as well.

Earlier, Premier Dalton McGuinty said the Ontario government acted with "good intentions" but too much haste. "The police were given additional authority. We moved too quickly to provide that authority," McGuinty admitted. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NATIONAL SECURITY

Pilot gets $319,000 in ruling

A refusal to provide pilot training to a Pakistani-born man considered a national-security threat has resulted in Bombardier Inc. being ordered to pay the man $319,000 in penalties.

The company would not provide pilot training for Javed Latif, who was identified as a "threat to aviation or national security" by U.S. authorities. The Quebec Human Rights Tribunal calls its ruling a historic one, given the context of post-9-11 security measures. "We're pretty thrilled with the decision," said Catherine McKenzie, a member of Latif's legal team. However, she said she is unsure if her client is aware of it because neither she or the commission have been unable to reach him. Latif, who is based in Toronto, works as a commercial pilot and is out of the country frequently.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar
– 98.67 (13,152.00)	+ 0.06¢ ($98.93¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
– 0.41¢ US ($88.28 US)	1,000 cu ft $4.606 (+ 21.3¢)
	Gold contracts $1,383 (– $25.80)

PHOTOS.COM, THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dollarama is set to head west

Dollarama will accelerate store expansion next year, particularly in Western Canada, as the Montreal-based retailer continues to build the leading Canadian discount chain. The company plans to add 50 stores in 2011, with one-third to 40 per cent of the growth being focused in Western Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

StatsCan being unfair?

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Industry Minister Tony Clement says he wants Statistics Canada to be more transparent.

NDP: Few seconds enough time for a trader to make money with data

Industry Minister Tony Clement has called for a probe of Statistics Canada procedures after a report that paying clients got up to a 59-second head start on market-moving data.

"If the report is true, it would be a disturbing situation," Clement told reporters Tuesday. "I directed officials immediately to look into the situation, to give me the facts."

Earlier Bloomberg, one of the agency's 10 paying clients, reported Statistics Canada had stopped the practice on Nov. 25 after the news service informed the federal agency that it could access data in advance of the official release.

A StatsCan spokesman blamed the problem on a programming glitch and said a preliminary inquiry has determined three of its secondary distributors had the ability to access the data in advance.

"My pledge to the people of Canada is that StatsCan should act in a fair manner." TONY CLEMENT

"There was the possibility that a secondary distributor could get the data as much as 59 seconds before release time," said Claude Graziadei, Statistics Canada's director of communication. "As soon as we discovered that, we had the programming on the systems changed ... and essentially we've plugged the hole." The most market-moving report issued by Statistics Canada is the monthly employment data, which is made public at 7 a.m. (ET) sharp on the first Friday of each month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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REVEALING THE EVIL SIDE OF JOURNALISM

He says ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE

As a mainstream media pawn, I'm often keeping government secrets, including the latest movements of the Taliban and how Ben Mulroney keeps his hair that way.

I'm kidding — or am I? — but when you work in journalism long enough, you learn many people are convinced you're part of some grand conspiracy theory. You also learn that many people apparently do jumping jacks in rooms with low ceilings.

For example, I once worked at a newspaper that was accused of reporting on a murder because it happened in a park where a natural gas line was being proposed. So, you see, we were trying to devalue the land in a bid to help our corporate buddies get their gas line.

I wish we were that smart, truly. I also wish we had that level of super villainy. It would be a lot of fun, tenting our fingers and such. But I'm afraid the only thing that makes that even remotely like real journalism management is how inefficient it is.

"Some people like to imagine the media as a shadowy collective ..."

Some people like to imagine the media as a shadowy collective that works in lockstep to undermine whatever beliefs they hold. It's not unusual to show up at an event with a notepad and have someone growl, "Are you the media?!"

"Yes. I am the media. Well, me and Peter Mansbridge. We just lunched. I'd love to talk, but there's a ribbon cutting in Regina, then I have an Ottawa meeting with the prime minister about what to make up this week."

I've been thinking about conspiracy theories because of the never-ending WikiLeaks story, which has taken secret U.S. documents, put them on the Internet, and resulted in a worldwide surge of Facebook status updates about "taking a WikiLeak." And that's been the most interesting thing about it.

WikiLeaks underlines the big flaw of most conspiracy theories: A conspiracy requires people to keep their mouth shut. And people don't. WikiLeaks hasn't revealed anything we didn't already know. It's been a bit like reading your daughter's diary and finding out she likes boys and "hates hates hates" you. Well, duh.

The lesson? There are no secrets. Everything is already out there, and the things that aren't get found out soon enough.

Frankly, if a journalist faces pressure from corporations or government about a story that could change lives, he will push past the oppression for one simple reason: He could win an award.

We are evil. Just not for the reasons you think.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Cartoon

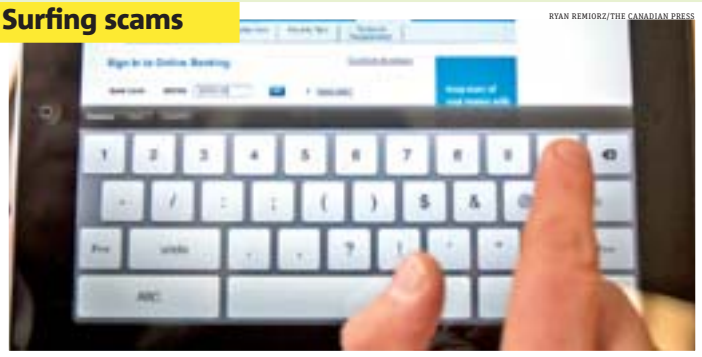
MICHAEL DE ADDER

2011: Year of app threat

Worth mentioning

Surfing scams

RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Want to scam someone on a smartphone or tablet computer? There's probably going to be an app for that.

The exploding popularity of mobile devices and their many software applications is already being exploited by those out to steal personal information.

"We think 2011 is the year of the threat to the mobile device, particularly the mobile app," said Dave DeWalt, chief executive of McAfee Inc. security software.

There are about 20 new computer tablets coming out, "tons" of new smart devices and literally hundreds of thousands of applications being developed for them, DeWalt said.

"There's an ecosystem of application developers who are building applications with the sole purpose of downloading to a mobile environment, making it very viral and then actually stealing from you," he said.

Next year, it's expected there will be more consumer warnings and research into these kinds of threats, DeWalt said.

Games are particularly vulnerable to malware because they are the most shared, social-network oriented and players enter personal information on their sites.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

What do you think about Don Cherry getting involved in politics?

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Metro Minute at literary reading

Book lovers are invited to explore Alberta as author Joan Donaldson-Yarmey reads from her book The Only Shadow In The House at the W.R. Castell Central Library tonight.

The book is the second in Donaldson-Yarmey's travelling detective series, which largely focuses on the investigative work of fictional writer Elizabeth Oliver. This instalment sees Oliver become entangled in a romance that leads to a murder mystery.

The reading is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Those planning to attend are asked to register by phone at 403-260-2620 or online at calgarypubliclibrary.com.

The W.R. Castell Central Library is located at 616 Macleod Trail SE.

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CONTRIBUTED

▶ Joan Donaldson-Yarmey will read from her latest work at the W.R. Castell Central Library tonight.

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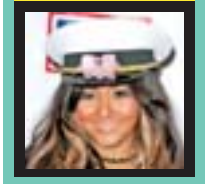
2 scene

News in brief



You know it's New Year's Eve when the Snooki drops — or at least you will this year.

MTV says it plans to put Jersey Shore star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi inside a ball that drops in New York's Times Square to ring in 2011 as part of its MTV New Year's Bash special.

The network says other stars from its hit reality show Jersey Shore will lead the crowd in a collective fist pump in hopes of breaking the Guinness world record.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Santa Claus just wants a beer: George Wendt slips into the red suit again for musical Elf

It's the holidays and you're staring down your gift list when it dawns on you: TV! We all have a die-hard fan of one show or another to buy for, so go for the easy-peasy with a screen-inspired gift Here are some suggestions for fans of four shows

Gift ideas for the TV lovers in your life

FRANK OCKENFELS/AMC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

MAD MEN

Booze, smokes, adultery. Nothing says the holidays like the '60s ad agency megahit on AMC.

• You heard about it on the show, now read it for yourself: Sterling's Gold: Wit & Wisdom of an Ad Man, observations from Roger Sterling Jr. It's a fresh offering that Grove Press published under the character's name. A Sterling pearl: "When a man gets to a point in his life when his name's on the building, he can get an unnatural sense of entitlement."

• There's also the stylish Mad Men: The Illustrated World by Dyna Moe from Penguin imprint Perigee Trade. Tips for the perfect bouffant, paper dolls that include Joan, hangover remedies, inside jokes. Great for the coffee table.

• For him: Sterling silver tie bar by David Donahue at Nordstrom. Narrow with etched stripes on the front.

• For her: The gold ruby glass Art Deco beverage set with roly-poly glasses at Retroartglass.com, or choose your own '60s-inspired martini set on eBay.

MICHAEL YARISH/FOX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

GLEE

For your favourite Gleek – because excess is important.

• Glee Karaoke Revolution for Wii. Sing your faves from the first season, perform with characters from the show, compete against friends, but don't forget the add-on: the Wii Karaoke Microphone.

• The cast has a new Christmas album, Glee, the Music, the Christmas Album, ahead of the second season's special for the holidays to air Dec. 7. Twelve mostly classic holiday nuts in all, including K.D. Lang channelling Dr. Seuss for You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.

• There's a licensed clothing line, from T-shirts to tracksuits, sold exclusively at Macy's, but why not wing it with a fun outfit for your fan — inspired by but not branded for the Fox smash.

• Claire's began selling Glee accessories in September for younger fans. Choose from necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, hats, cosmetics, legwear, bags (there's one that says Kiss My Glee), wallets and paper goods. Tons more available elsewhere.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS

The world's most popular sea sponge and his Bikini Bottom underworld are tailor-made for the holidays.

• If your little one can stomach a little real life (sometimes bad things happen to good animals), then wrap up the DVD of Oceans from Disneynature. The follow-up to Earth came out this year and is a visual celebration of sea creatures and their life cycles. Rated G.

• Natural sea sponges can be had in many shapes and sizes. Order some from Naturalbathandbodyshop.com and combine in a gift box full of fresh paints in sea tones and a roll of heavy paper for art projects. The site sells natural sponges that look like fingers, elephant ears and undersea vases.

• Mr. SquarePants is a merchandising machine, so there's no end of books, games, toys, sports gear and home decor available. Looking for something inspired by but not emblazoned with SpongeBob? Try Suzy Lee's wordless Wave, a lovely picture book about a girl on a beach first out in 2008.

ADAM LARKEY/ABC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

DANCING WITH THE STARS

Twelve seasons later, this glitzy competition is going strong. You're never too young or old to feel the beat, or trash celebs.

• Toning your tush to the tango might be just the ticket for the holidays. There are plenty of DWTS-inspired workouts on DVD. Watch for Dancing With the Stars: Ballroom Buns & Abs, featuring fitness pros Chelsie, Edyta and Kym. They promise sexy dancer curves in three workouts.

• Grab the hubs and go for Samba lessons. He'll groan but they're paid for already.

• For kid fans, Dance Star Mickey by Fisher-Price is catching some buzz for the holidays. This mighty animatronic robot mouse has different moves for different grooves. He walks, he talks, he tells jokes, he moonwalks. Just press his foot and away he goes.

• Treat a teen to some leg warmers, from chunky cables in wool to lighter-weight versions made for actual dancers in stripes or warm pink. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Duffy continues to grow her repertoire

JOEL RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Duffy released her second album Endlessly.

With her first album, Duffy became a Grammy winner, a platinum-selling artist and an international sensation.

But while the petite blonde from Wales had been working diligently for her moment in the spotlight, when it came, she didn't feel quite like she earned all that adulation.

"I remember playing for 60,000 people thinking, 'You only know me for 10 songs,'" she said recently. "I want to show you that there's more. I want to earn that kind of celebration."

She's hoping to do that with Endlessly. Her sophomore album (a new term for Duffy that she delightfully pronounces "soft-more") is a bit more upbeat than her debut, Rockferry, and features collaborations with Al Hammond Sr. and ?uestlove from The Roots.

"I'm bringing more aspects of myself to this record," she said. "I'm a catalogue artist now! ... It kind of feels surreal."

You're working with new people on this record. Why switch things up when the first album was such a success?

It would be easy for someone to rest on their laurels. ... But for me, I wanted to keep testing myself, to (keep) challenging myself, and actually it happened quite accidentally that I ended up working with other people.

What did Hammond and ?uestlove bring to the table?

Well, it was an interesting mix of people: Myself from Wales, 26 years old; Albert Hammond from Gibraltar, sort of Spanish influence, who is 66; and then you had The Roots, who are a bunch of really cool young guys, notorious for their unbelievable hip-hop rhythm section. I think it was daring but I was very happy with what came back.

You've said that you didn't want to make a sad album. Did you think your debut was sad?

I don't want to exploit my music just to release the baggage. I don't want to say the things that I regretted saying or the things that I never said in my music. I want to use it as expression and I want to make people feel good. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Pirates. First Look

▶ Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) escapes the clutches of King George and his Royal Guards by leaping from carriage to carriage ... while they're still moving in a scene from the upcoming movie Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides.

Captain Jack is coming back in 3-D

Fans of the Pirates of the Caribbean might have to wait until May 20, 2011 to see the fourth movie in the franchise, On Stranger Tides, but Metro has a Canadian print exclusive first look at a scene from the film. This will be the first movie in the franchise that will be released in 3-D. It also introduces a new villain, Blackbeard (Ian McShane) and a new love interest for Captain Jack, Angelica (Penelope Cruz).

Album reviews

A classic ●●●●● | Buy it ●●●● | Get the single ●●● | Borrow it ●● | Don't bother ●

Daft Punk
Album: Tron: Legacy
Label: Walt Disney
●●●½
No artist could fit a film better than Daft Punk with a sequel to Tron. Hiring an 85-piece orchestra to help out, they've defied most expectations as Tron: Legacy is more a true film score than a new Daft Punk album. As such, they've built a cinematic atmosphere, which unfortunately makes listening to it tricky without the revolutionary visuals. **Outstanding track:** Tron: Legacy (End Titles) ● CAM LINDSAY

Duffy
Album: Endlessly
Label: Universal
●●●
Duffy sticks to her retro groove with a rhythm section provided by The Roots and music written by 66-year-old Hall of Fame songwriter Albert Hammond. On a couple of tracks, like Lovestruck the squeaky Britpop singer drags herself from the mid-60s into the disco of the late 70s, complete with swirling violins. There are places on this CD where Duffy's nasally rasp is simply irritating.
● GRAHAM ROCKINGHAM

Deadmau5
Album: 4x4=12
Label: Virgin/EMI
●●●½
Deadmau5 might be an internationally acclaimed electro artist, but the noise maker is a born and bread Torontonian. Not that it matters, Joel Zimmerman, as his family calls him, makes gripping dance-floor sounds that anyone, anywhere can enjoy. His latest is a compilation of loosely connected songs. They all feature some kind of heavy drum beat, and they're mostly devoid of vocals. ● BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI

T.I.
Album: No Mercy
Label: Grand Hustle/Atlantic
●●½
Originally titled King Uncaged, T.I.'s delayed seventh album was re-branded once he was ordered back to jail. No Mercy finds T.I. rapping about salvation and his mistakes but too much focus is placed on his player lifestyle. No Mercy falls flat, even with Kanye and Eminem standing tall by his side. **Outstanding track:** Pledge of Allegiance
● CAM LINDSAY

Christopher Dignan
Album: Let The Sparks Fly
Label: Independent
●●●●●
Mingling amongst musical sub-genres while still entirely unique, Toronto-based solo artist Dignan creates a sinewy mix of garage, shuffling rockabilly groove and indie rock on this pristine full-length. If ever there was a poster-boy for the future of Toronto's independent rock scene, Dignan is it. **Outstanding track:** I'm Feeling Good Now
● KEITH CARMEN

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REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:

- Knowledge of distribution strategies for news/print media preferred
- Strong reporting skills using Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel
- Strong computer and email skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work at irregular hours (some evening work required)
- Assertive self-starter with own vehicle
- An adequate team player with an adaptable attitude

Individuals interested and having the skills described are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than December 17, 2010. PLEASE QUOTE: "DISTRIBUTION AUDITOR - CALGARY" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

Ever wonder how Lindsay Lohan was conceived?

Never one to shy away from personal revelations, Michael Lohan was more than happy to use a visit to the satellite radio Playboy Morning Show to explain how daughter Lindsay Lohan was conceived.

"Dina and I were in Switzerland," he said. "You're stuck in a chalet for three days so you're going to have a lot of sex."

But that's not all he had to divulge about how his daughter came to be.

"It was the first time I ever smoked pot in my entire life," Michael added. METRO

▶ Michael Lohan

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ In an upcoming Barbara Walters special, Oprah says she's not a lesbian.

Oprah shuts down lesbian rumours

The media mogul denies an intimate relationship with best friend Gayle King, despite persistent gossip

Oprah Winfrey says she's not a lesbian, not even a little bit.

Her long personal and professional connection with Gayle King has sparked rumours that they are gay, but Winfrey denies it in an upcoming interview with ABC's Barbara Walters.

"I'm not even kind of a lesbian," Winfrey says.

Persistent gossip to the contrary annoys her, she says, explaining that, if it were true, "Why would you want to hide it?

"That is not the way I run my life."

Asked to describe her relationship with King, Winfrey calls her "the mother I never had, the sister everybody would want. She is the friend that everybody deserves."

Winfrey's eyes moisten and her voice chokes as she adds, "I don't know a better person."

Winfrey will end her daytime talk show next spring and, on Jan. 1, is launching a cable channel, the Oprah Winfrey Network.

That new venture has given her moments of panic. "I would wake up in the middle of the night literally clutching my chest, like, 'What have I done?'" she tells Walters. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celebrity tweets

Yoko Ono [@yokoono] Let's report to the Universe how glad we are that our planet is part of such as beautiful constellation.

Steve Martin [@SteveMartinToGo] iPhone just synced perfecty with toaster All is well.

Dolly Parton [@Dolly_Parton] My weaknesses have always been food and men — in that order.

Talking points

Leonardo DiCaprio's Canadian face slasher sentenced

Aretha Wilson, who snuck into a party five years ago and slashed Leonardo DiCaprio's face with a broken beer bottle, was sentenced to two years in prison this week, TMZ reports.

After she has served out her sentence, Wilson will be deported to her native Canada.

DiCaprio reportedly needed at least a dozen stitches as well as plastic surgery after the attack. Wilson claims she mistook DiCaprio for an ex. METRO

Tiger Woods goes from cheater to deadbeat dad

Tiger Woods may be getting things back on track professionally, but he's reportedly spending less and less time with his kids since his divorce from Elin Nordegren, according to Popeater.

"Tiger spent Thanksgiving with his two kids, Sam and Charlie, and his mother, but hasn't seen much of them since the split," a source says.

"They spend most of their time with Elin, who is getting on with her life since the ugly separation."

When Woods comes by to the see the kids, Nordegren reportedly prefers to be elsewhere. METRO

▶ Tiger Woods

Don't expect a phone call from actor Johnny Depp

Don't sit around waiting for Johnny Depp to give you a call.

The actor claims he doesn't own even a phone on which to make the call.

"I just don't like phones. I just don't like them, being reachable all the time," he tells Access Hollywood.

"We have Internet and stuff like that because I think that's the safest form — well, most interesting form — of communication.

"You'd have to, you know, just buzz me on the Internet or something." METRO

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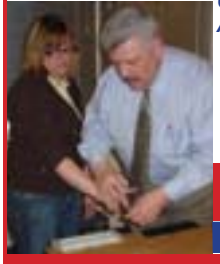

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3 life

Meet Edward Buchanan, Rad Hourani, Alexa Adams and Flora Gill — the designers behind three exciting new labels that are sure to some day influence the way we dress.

Remember their names

KENYA HUNT
STYLE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

When it comes to fashion, young designers often go in and out of style as frequently as the trends they produce. But in a seemingly endless sea of Ones To Watch, there are those few who reveal themselves to have real staying power. Here are three emerging names who you will soon be hearing a lot about.

The designer: Edward Buchanan of Sansovino 6

The innovation: Knitted jeans and re-invented basics

The buzz: Buchanan is a seasoned behind-the-scenes vet who worked for marquee brands (Giorgio Armani, Calvin Klein) before the Italian house Bottega Veneta hired him as a design director. Six years later, he moved back to Manhattan to consult Jennifer Lopez and Sean Diddy Combs on their clothing lines.

"But I never was that designer who was interested in celebrity," Buchanan says. "So I returned to Europe. Sansovino 6 was that answer to what I had been wanting as a designer."

The line is also the answer to what many of us are missing from our closets.

"I asked all of my friends what they wanted for their wardrobes but couldn't find," he explains.

He took their answers — jeans that look modern but feel old and worn in, for instance — and made the knitwear equivalent. The end result is a collection of reinvented staples, such as a pair of skinny jeans that look rough and worn but is in fact completely knitted.

The designer: Rad Hourani

The innovation: Unisex separates

The buzz: Usually, when you think of the word unisex, nondescript T-shirts and parkas come to mind. But Rad Hourani's eponymous clothing line features intricately constructed separates that blur the gender lines.

"When I'm designing a collection, I don't think to myself that I am designing for men or women," says the self-taught designer

who splits his time between Paris and New York.

"I do things without gender or season. It's about defying those limitations that are so often self-imposed. I think people should use their own brains to understand … what they like or don't like, rather than allow it to be externally decided," he adds.

The designers: Flora Gill and Alexa Adams

▶ Adams and Gill

The innovation: The line's name means "no title" in German, and the New York-based duo's work aptly has a quality to it that's difficult to put your finger on. It's powerful and yet soft. It cuts a clear line, but sculpts the body as well.

The buzz: Their fanbase grows by the season (Vogue Paris editor Carine Roitfeld bought a coat off the runway) as does their accolades. They've been nominated for both the CFDA Vogue Fashion Fund and Swiss Textile Awards.

Famous faces

When one thinks of Anna Wintour, hip hop doesn't normally come to mind. Yet, there she is, making an appearance on Sean "Diddy" Combs and Dirty Money's new album, Last Train to Paris. The album list of guest stars reads like a fashion week show schedule with Marc Jacobs, Andre Leon Talley, Zac Posen and Isaac Mizrahi delivering lines as well. Go to americanvogue.com to get a preview of it all. METRO

Outdoor adventurers setting the outerwear for city and suburbia too

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Swift exudes ethereal style

Don't look for Taylor Swift in rumpled clothes and no makeup: She's not interested in dressing down to go incognito.

Gowns, red lipstick, hairstylists, front-row runway seats — and, as icing, a CoverGirl model contract — are perks of her fame. She's not going to run away from them, especially if her fans are watching.

"When I'm in Nashville, I feel like I can go natural and not really worry about it, but I generally love makeup and I love dressup. That's why award shows are so much fun for me," Swift says.

"I'd never wish away makeup and getting all dolled up."

" I feel like I can go natural and not really worry about it." TAYLOR SWIFT

She owes it to her supporters to put on a good show, she says, and at 5'10" she'd stand out in a crowd anyway.

In her new CoverGirl NatureLuxe ads debuting this week, she has a more ethereal vibe.

Yes, she says, there have been quite a few offers to be a spokeswoman for products, but some make more sense than others.

But, Swift adds, her whole life isn't going to become a commercial.

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A wild winter, naturally

From animal graphics to imaginative plays on animal shapes, a bit of beastly style works in any living space
Take a walk on the wild side when choosing presents for the home

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANTHROPOLOGIE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Animal-shaped lamps can often look kitschy, but these find a balance between whimsy and great style; $88 each, anthropologie.com.

DWELL STUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DwellStudio's Peacock Pillows manage to look old world and current at the same time; $58, dwellstudio.com.

URBAN OUTFITTERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the hip yet disorganized person on your list, consider Urban Outfitters' owl-shaped umbrella stand; $128, urbanoutfitters.com.

URBAN OUTFITTERS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Labrador's head wall hook is perfect for holding the scarf of any of your dog fanatic friends; $38, urbanoutfitters.com.

DWELL STUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Chinoiserie Pillow by Dwell Studio would complement any chic living room beautifully; $58, dwellstudio.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

These creatures decked out in tiny metallic sequins make great tabletop accessories all year; $25 each, westelm.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This set of small porcelain plates with winter animals etched in platinum are both elegant and whimsical; Set of 4, $22, westelm.com.

ALLMODERN.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thai designer Supon Phornirunlit's collection of contemporary graphic animal pillows are hand-silkscreened; $49.95 each, allmodern.com.

WEST ELM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Polan's painted owl, penguin and acorn canapé plates would be a lovely hostess gift; Set of 3, $22, westelm.com.

An entertaining guru's wish list

Claim your title as 'host with the most' with these unique home items

DECOR MOMENT

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

Living downtown means I have a lot of friends and family who surprise me with visits while they are in the city doing their holiday errands. As a home entertaining enthusiast, I love all the toys that can help make a guest's visit a memorable one. Here are a few things on my wish-list that I hope to find under the tree this year.

1 GEL CHEF'S MAT
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3 NESPRESSO MACHINE
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4 BAILEYS IRISH CREAM
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Atlas Specialty is a grocery store and cozy restaurant in one that serves the best Persian food in the city. If you've never tried it before, start with the flame-broiled kabobs.

Koobideh ($11.50) is two skewers of AAA spiced ground beef, while joojeh ($13.50) is impossibly moist chicken best eaten spicy. All kabobs are served on a huge bed of saffron rice with roasted tomatoes and onions.

If you're in a hurry, you can always get one skewer in a pita bread wrap, garnished with vegetables.

The Persian stews (khoresht) really make Atlas unique. The fesenjoon ($13.99) is a deliciously different combination of ground walnuts, pomegranate paste and chicken, which balances sweet and savoury. Gheimeh is a cold-day stew with yellow split beans and chunks of sirloin in a mild tomato base. Or you can pick three stews to sample for $15.99.

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- 1.5 l (6 cups) old cheddar cheese, shredded
- 10 ml (2 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) black pepper

Classic Macaroni and Cheese

Preparation:

With Christmas shopping, festive school concerts and the hectic pace everyone endures during the holiday season, turning to your slow cooker for help to get meals on the table with little fuss makes perfect sense.

This comforting classic is perfect for such a time and it will no doubt become a family favourite. Serve with a veggie salad.

1. In a mixing bowl, toss macaroni with butter.
2. Stir in evaporated milk, sour cream, cheese, salt and pepper.
3. Place in a slow cooker. Cover; cook on low for 4 to 6 hours. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

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Gifts for foodies on your holiday list

{page 36}

For beautiful babes

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Give the gift of video gaming

Kinect for the Xbox 360 from Microsoft Corp.

This is the futuristic motion controller from Microsoft Corp. It removes remotes entirely from the gaming experience. Kinect is basically a fancy camera that tracks your movements, hand gestures and voice. It can also recognize faces and scan in objects so you can use them in certain games. This holiday season, retailers are also bundling Kinect with a low-end version of the Xbox 360 at a discount.

Good for: Families with young kids, anyone averse to games with lots of buttons and complex controls.

Cost: $150 for the standalone Kinect camera system, or $300 for the Kinect with a 4 gigabyte Xbox 360. Both come with a game, Kinect Adventures.

PlayStation Move from Sony Corp.

Sony says it had considered selling a controller-free controller a la Kinect but then thought better of it. Many games, it turns out, simply work better when you are holding a remote in your hand. Sony Corp.'s Move is that remote, at least if you are a PlayStation 3 fan.

Good for: Wii owners ready to move on to high-definition games and first-person shooters, though for now the bulk of Move games are more limited to more "casual" titles.

Cost: $100 for a bundle that includes the PlayStation Eye camera, one Move controller and a game, Sports Champions. For $400 total, you get all that plus a 32 gigabyte PlayStation 3.

Nintendo Wii and accessories

To celebrate 25 years of Super Mario, Nintendo is selling a limited edition red version of the Wii this holiday season, which could make for a good gift for anyone on your list obsessed with this classic video game icon. The console comes with a red controller and two games.

A great new accessory this year is the uDraw GameTablet from THQ Inc. It's essentially a mini art studio that lets players of all ages paint, doodle and colour using a small tablet and an attached stylus.

Good for: Kids, families ready to graduate from the now very old PlayStation 2, little brothers and little sisters.

Cost: $200 for the red Mario bundle, $40 for each additional remote plus $20 for a Nunchuck. The uDraw tablet is $70, with extra games such as Pictionary available for $30 each.

OnLive MicroConsole

This new game console is so small it could easily fit in a Christmas stocking, and at $99 it's almost cheap enough to stuff in there. The console plugs into players' TV sets and comes with a generic wireless controller for traditional shooter video games.

Good for: Adventurous gamers with their eye on the next big thing. Budget-minded gamers who want to try before they buy. OnLive offers short-term game rentals for a fee.

Cost: $99 for the console. There is a Netflix-style "all-you-can-play" service for $10 per month, though the games available through it are older. Separately, games are available to rent for three or five days for about $5 to $9. Buying games for unlimited play costs the same as a traditional hard copy for a console or PC.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Small packages good things

Bath and body gifts for the little ones in your life by Janine Falcon

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After the bath, nutrient-rich all-natural baby oil locks moisture in and maintains soft skin's healthy moisture barrier. **burtsbees.ca.**

2

Kiss My Face A Whale of a Soap Duo, $8.99, Orange U Smart Detangler, $9.99
A happy fruity scent adds a playful note to kiddie bath and grooming time. Whale-shaped soap doesn't hurt — neither does tangle-free hair. **well.ca.**

3

Green Beaver Jr. Boreal Berries Bubble Bath, $9.25, Lip Balm, $3.89
Bring on the bubbles with Canadian-made Green Beaver. Their natural stick balm helps little lips give winter the kiss-off, too. **well.ca.**

4

Weleda Baby Calendula Face Cream, $14.25
Protect delicate young skin and keep it supple with calming calendula in an all-natural formula. **well.ca**

5

Hopscotch Kids Watercolors, $12.99 each
The nail-colour craze has mini fans too; bypass toxins in favour of a water-based formula ranked tops for safety by Environmental Working Group. **hopscotchkids.com.**

6

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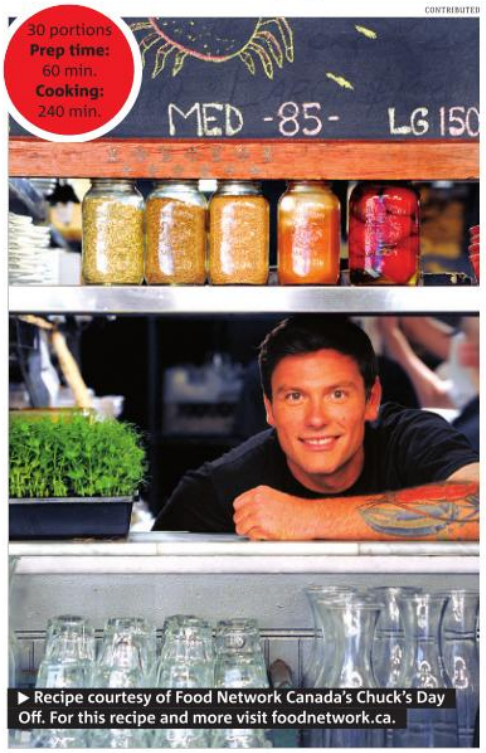
The legendary holiday Turducken



▶ Recipe courtesy of Food Network Canada's Chuck's Day Off. For this recipe and more visit foodnetwork.ca.

For a standout dish, try this — your guests will be speechless

Ingredients:

- 1x25 pound turkey, deboned
- 1x5 pound duck, deboned
- 1x3 1/2 pound chicken, deboned
- 1 Italian truffle
- 1/2 cup smoked paprika (125 ml)
- 1/2 cup melted butter (125 ml)
- Salt and pepper
- Stuffing

Preparation:

1. Spread the turkey, skin down, on a flat surface, exposing as much meat as possible. Sprinkle the meat generously and evenly with a total of about 3 tablespoons of the smoked paprika, patting the seasoning in with your hands. (Be sure to turn the leg, thigh and wing meat to the outside so you can season it too.) Season with salt and pepper.
2. Stuff some stuffing in the leg, thigh and wing cavities until full but not tightly packed. (If too tightly packed, it may cause the leg and wing to burst open during cooking.)
Spread an even layer of stuffing over the remaining exposed meat, about 1/2 to 3/4 inches thick. You should use a total of about 4 cups of stuffing.
3. For the duck, remove some of the fat and keep aside. Place the duck, skin down, on top of stuffing, arranging the duck evenly over the stuffing. Season the exposed duck meat generously and evenly with smoked paprika, using about 1 tablespoon, and pressing it in with your hands. Season with salt and pepper.
Then spread about 1 cup of the stuffing evenly over the exposed duck meat, making the layer slightly less thick, about 1/2 inch thick. Repeat with the chicken and the remaining stuffing. Place an Italian truffle in the centre (optional).
4. With the assistance of your helper, carefully lift the open Turducken into an ungreased 15x11 baking pan that is at least 2-1/2 inches deep. (Note: this pan size is ideal because the Turducken fits snugly in the pan and stays in the proper shape while cooking.)
5. Enlist someone's help to close Turducken. Fold the sides of the turkey together to close the bird. Have your helper hold the turkey closed while you sew up all the openings, making the stitches about 1 inch apart.
When you finish sewing up the Turducken on the first side, turn it over in the pan to sew closed any openings in the other side. Then tie the legs together, just above the tip bones.
Leave the Turducken to cook, breast side up, in the pan, tucking in the turkey wings.
6. Place the Turducken pan in a slightly larger pan with sides at least 2-1/2" deep, so that the larger pan will catch the overflow of drippings during cooking. Season the exposed side of the Turducken with the remaining smoked paprika, patting it in with your hands. Brush with melted butter.
7. Bake the Turducken at 325F (170C), about 4 hours, until done, or until a meat thermometer inserted through to the centre reads 165 °F. When done, remove the turducken from the oven and let rest for about 15 minutes.

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Cookbooks fit to give everyone

Got an uncle who insists on hunting wild mushrooms or butchering his own steak? There's a cookbook for that. What about a working mom hoping to please picky palates during the daily dinner deadline? We have her covered, too. From DIY fanatics to busy families and even science geeks, this year's crop of cookbooks offers something for everyone.

FOR THE KIDS

For a book heavier on story than on cooking, check out Soup Day. On a blustery day, a little girl helps her mom select and chop vegetables for a warming winter soup. Idyllic and cosy with colourful, textured illustrations, the book also offers a perfect recipe for tiny hands.

FOR DEVOTED FOODIES WHO HAVE IT ALL

Molly O'Neill's One Big Table is a collection of 600 recipes that chronicle the diversity of American food. It features recipes taken from pit masters, farmers, home cooks and chefs around the United States.

The former Times food columnist includes recipes such as Farideh Khoury's muhammara, a Detroit mom's formula for the Syrian red pepper and walnut paste, and Mike DiMuccio's Rhode Island fried calamari, a plumber's pepper-spiked take on squid. With homey photos of some of her contributors, "One Big Table" is an album of America's rich culinary history.

FOR THE BAKER

Your sweet-tooth baker will appreciate Sweet Chic, a collection of confections by the owner of New York bakery Tribeca Treats. From easy homemade thin mints to multi-stepped masterpieces like sweet-and-salty cake (think devil's food with caramel and fleur de sel), the recipes in this book are great for a rainy day or a big celebration.

FOR DIY TYPES

Arranged by season for the freshest results, The Blue Chair Jam Cookbook contains more than 100 recipes for jams, preserves and marmalades. Winter brings marmalades of bergamot, pink grapefruit and Meyer lemons. Spring is time for rhubarb, strawberries, apricots and other eagerly anticipated fruits inventively combined into rosemary-scented marmalades, orange-blossom jams and good old solid preserves. This book is ideal for anyone who dreams of "putting up" their favourite fruits.

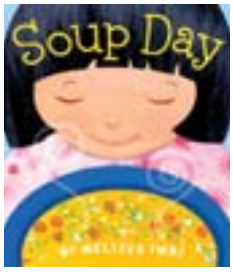
FOR CELEBRITY HOUNDS

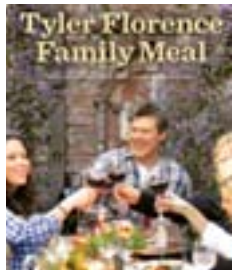
Got a Food Network junkie in the family? Spark 'em up with Tyler Florence Family Meal, a guide to dinners that range from fast, kid-friendly pastas to feast-worthy roasts. Dishes such as angel hair with arugula take care of everyone on a Tuesday. But if you're gunning for Saturday night praise, a crown roast stuffed with apple and pecan dressing or a fish fry with sausage hushpuppies ought to do the trick. A well-rounded ode to gather-worthy fare with celeb flair.

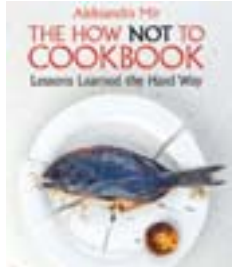
GENERAL GOOD GIFT BOOKS

Don't force open a pressure cooker. And if you do, don't put your face over it. Do not think that Boston baked beans are a good addition to curry. And never, ever use garlic if you are cooking for the British. These are but a few of the tips offered by the stunningly amusing The How Not To Cookbook (Rizzoli, 2010), an assemblage of advice from 1,000 cooks around the world. A good laugh – and perhaps a cautionary tale.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS







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5 projects for the DIY gift-giver

Sometimes a new twist on an old idea is all it takes and a beautiful handmade gift is born.

If you're inclined toward making your own gifts this holiday season, look in on the following five ideas, which stand out for their simplicity and freshness

Silhouette on canvas

Haile McCollum of Thomasville, Ga., is her family's de facto genealogist, the keeper of heirlooms and ancestral silhouette portraits. She also has a background in graphic design, and has reinvented the silhouette with her own two sons — and the family dog, Amos — as subjects. Her idea is featured in Crafting a Meaningful Home (STC Craft/Melanie Falick Books, 2010).

McCollum simplified and updated the silhouette using modern technology; silhouettes are decoupaged onto painted canvas rather than secreted behind frames.

To make the silhouette, paint a small oval-stretched canvas with acrylic paint and let dry. With a digital camera, take a profile photo — only a head shot — of the subject. Upload the photo to a computer and resize. Print the photo and carefully cut it out, getting as many details as possible. Secure this pattern onto a sheet of heavyweight paper and cut it to match. Adhere profile to canvas using decoupage glue; let it dry. Paint another thin layer of decoupage glue over the entire canvas.

McCollum recommends experimenting with paper and colour, perhaps putting a hot-pink silhouette onto a bright orange background, or putting brown on blue. Paper with a tight pattern may look good, too. Card stock works best for the silhouette, says McCollum, who owns a personalized stationery and gift company called Fontaine Maury.

The silhouettes needn't even be paper. For example, they can be cut out of fabric and sewn or glued onto pillow cases. "In our bedroom, we have our two sons on our two pillows on our bed. It's really cute," says McCollum.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Silhouette on canvas

Personalized pillow

Kim Johnson of Estero, Fla., is an illustrator and amateur photographer whose artistic canvas is the pillow. She sews her own out of a felt fabric made from recycled plastic bottles, and embellishes the pillows with the same soft felt.

The self-taught sewer says that working with felt is especially easy because the material doesn't fray. The felt at fabric stores will work, but Johnson uses higher-end wool felt and bamboo felt that she buys from the online dealer Feltorama.

In a hurry? Buy a good-looking pillow and embellish it with felt using fabric glue. Need inspiration? Check out Johnson's ideas at her Etsy online shop, photographik.

Paper photo pendant

If you've ever made your own cardboard photo frames, this idea is that in miniature, on a ribbon.

Aubrey Avila of Marion, N.C., was trying to create a locket for her children's photos when she hit on this simple idea, tutorials for which she sells at her Etsy shop, Decelerate.

The craft goes something like this: Cut out a 7.5-by-4-cm (3-by-1-1/2-inch) square of thin cardboard (cereal boxes work well). Fold it in half. Cut an opening for the photo that measures 2.5-by-1-cm (1-by-1/2-inch) on one half side.

Cover this with a heavyweighted paper, such as card stock — something with a small, tight design. Fold the paper over the cardboard, making sure the edges are smooth; use hot glue to secure.

At the photo opening, cut a small "x" and carefully peel back the paper, leaving a clean finish; glue edges down.

Wrap 20-gauge wire around the spine of the frame and make a loop at the top for inserting ribbon. Finally, glue the two sides of the frame together, leaving the bottom open for inserting a tiny image. Vellum can be inserted with the photo to protect it.

Avila says the fit is tight enough that the image won't fall out.

The pendant is perfect for holiday gift-giving, and it's easy enough for kids to make with a little parental guidance, she says.

"You want something that can be customized," says Avila. "I think that makes a gift more meaningful. That's the whole idea."

The techee sleeve

Architects-turned-crafting entrepreneurs, Kim Mason and Christina Guerrero of Philadelphia teamed up last summer to create the Etsy online store Rogue Theory. They sell all kinds of colourful "sleeves" for protecting today's high-tech toys, from Kindles to iPods.

It's a colourful twist on a simple idea: The sleeves incorporate two pieces of cotton fabric, sewn right sides together, with a polyester interfacing that adds padding without bulk. The fabric then is folded and sewn up the sides to dimensions that allow for a snug techie-toy fit.

"The big thing is to keep it simple and sleek," says Mason. "It's a lot like designing a building. We think if the design is on point, you can put any fabric on it and personalize it for any person."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Recycled sweater scarf

Recycled sweater Scarf

Michele Beschen of Van Meter, Iowa, hosts "b. organic" on public television. She recently contributed several ideas for handmade gifts to HGTV.com's "Handmade Holidays," which ties into the cable network's one-hour special "15 Fresh Handmade Gift Ideas," which airs through December.

On the show and online, Beschen shares her infinity scarf, cut from a single sweater with minimal sewing.

"You can still give a knitted item without knowing how to knit," she says.

Use the knitted fabric of one sweater, or combine the colours and textures of several sweaters into one scarf, suggests Beschen, who uses acrylic or acrylic-blend sweaters because they keep their shape and drape well.

"Play with the colours, how the knits lay together," she advises.

Incorporate the sweater's other features, such as buttons or a pocket, into the scarf. When making a gift, Beschen advises using muted colours that can be incorporated into anyone's wardrobe.

To make the scarf: Using a single sweater, cut around it under the armholes, or according to desired width. Finish the cut edge by hand or machine stitching. Instructions for combining the fabric of two sweaters into one scarf are at HGTV.com/handmade.

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EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Flames play the Kings today ...

California dreaming

Inconsistent Flames looking to end a recent rut with wins in the Golden State ◐ Team has gone eight games without back-to-back wins

JEFF GROSS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ ... and the Ducks tomorrow.

The Calgary Flames are hoping a change of scenery in sunny California will bust them out of their recent run of inconsistency.

The Flames (12-14-2) have gone 4-3-1 in their past eight games, including a 4-2 win at home Tuesday over the Tampa Bay Lightning, but they haven't been able to win two games in a row during that stretch.

As Calgary heads south to face the Los Angeles Kings today and the Anaheim Ducks tomorrow, coach Flames Brent Sutter wants to see a new pattern.

"This winning one, losing one isn't doing us any good," he said yesterday. "All we're doing is just kind of spinning our tires here and we need to start taking the steps. We've played some good hockey, but now we need to get some results consistently over and over again."

"One win, one loss, one win, one loss — time's going to run away if you keep doing that."
MARK GIORDANO

Sutter is hopeful that Tuesday's victory over the Lightning will help spark the Flames to a few more wins.

"We've just got to build off of it," Sutter said. "Obviously, we've got to get on some kind of roll here and nail some wins off in a row."

In their first nine games, the Flames reeled off winning streaks of two games and three games en route to a 6-3 record. Since then, they've gone 6-11-2 and have plunged to the bottom of the Western Conference standings.

"We need to string some wins together and we need to start now," said forward Rene Bourque. "We've got to make it happen this time if we want to catch the teams ahead of us."

Despite their struggles, the Flames remain just four points behind the Kings (15-10-0) and five points behind the Ducks (14-13-3), who held down seventh and eighth spots, respectively, in the Western Conference standings heading into play yesterday.

"It's pretty tight," said goalie Miikka Kiprusoff, who has done his part to keep the Flames competitive this season. "We need to put a couple wins together. We just have to get ready and take these next two."

With a pair of victories, the Flames can return to the .500 mark for the first time since early October.

But winning both games in California won't be easy. The Flames are 5-8-2 on the road so far this season while the Kings have gone 10-2 at the Staples Center and the Ducks have compiled a 9-6-1 record at the Honda Center. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Money doesn't guarantee success in NHL

In the NHL's salary-cap system, teams don't always get what they pay for.

Six of the league's biggest spenders found themselves out of the playoff picture yesterday morning, which is why this week's news that the salary cap is expected to jump again doesn't necessarily signal the NHL has become a league of "haves" and "have nots."

New Jersey, Calgary, Ottawa, San Jose, Minnesota and Toronto are all in the top half of the league in spending, according to capgeek.com, and are among those currently chasing a playoff spot. Meanwhile, a number of other teams are thriving despite spending well below the $59.4-million US salary cap.

"You don't necessarily have to be there (to be competitive)," said Tampa Bay GM Steve Yzerman.

When Yzerman was hired by Lightning owner Jeff Vinik at the end of May, he was given a tight budget. The team is currently carrying a roster that is more than $10 million below the salary cap, but finds itself inside the top eight in the Eastern Conference.

There's no guarantee Yzerman will ever be given the green light to be as free-spending as his colleagues.

"In due time, if we can be successful in our plans, we feel we'll be able to compete and potentially our budget will change," said Yzerman. "For the time being, I'm very comfortable with the budget that we have. (I think) that we can compete. Obviously, we'd all love to have the same resources as other teams but that's not the reality.

"It will never be that way no matter what system (we have)."

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman was quick to note that the poorer teams still see a benefit when the salary cap jumps because more money is handed out in revenue sharing. Roughly 10 teams qualify for revenue-sharing payments each season.

"If the salary cap goes up, it means revenues are going up," said Bettman. "It means revenue sharing goes up. You've got to look at the system in its totality."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 sports

Quoted

"Mario Lemieux told me I finally look like a hockey player."
BEN ROETHLISBERGER. THE STEELERS QB IS WALKING AROUND WITH A LARGE BANDAGE ON HIS BROKEN NOSE AND A PROTECTIVE BOOT ON HIS PAINFULLY INJURED RIGHT FOOT.

"I did a CT scan before the surgery (Monday) and they said everything was still holding up really well and they were really pleased with that ... The plates and everything in my face were fine, so that's good."
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Moves aplenty at winter meetings

Pena headed to Cubs ◗ Konerko back to White Sox ◗ Yankees make first offer to the coveted Cliff Lee

A few hours apart, both Chicago teams filled their needs at first base — Carlos Pena joined the Cubs, Paul Konerko returned to the White Sox.

Another first, too, at the winter meetings yesterday: The New York Yankees made their initial offer to free agent Cliff Lee.

No telling exactly how much money or how many years the Yankees proposed. But there's no mistaking how eager they are to sign the prize pitcher.

"Hannibal Lecter in a straitjacket right now, waiting on this Cliff Lee thing," general manager Brian Cashman said.

Outfielders Jeff Francoeur (Kansas City) and Matt Diaz (Pittsburgh) found new teams while designated hitter Jack Cust (Seattle) and former all-star reliever George Sherrill (Atlanta) appeared to be on their way.

Hard to tell about Tampa Bay shortstop Jason Bartlett, however. After a trade with Baltimore fell through, the Rays worked on a swap that would send him to San Diego.

The last full day of this week's session was active, with many teams in the mix. Still in play are big-name free agents Carl Crawford, Adrian Beltre, Magglio Ordonez and Manny Ramirez, along with Lee.

"The winter meetings have usually been a lot about first meetings, and we're into second and third meetings," top agent Scott Boras said. "I've gotten two deals done here. I'm trying to think back to when that's happened. It's been a while."

Boras put Pena and the Cubs together in a contract worth $10 million US for one year. The 32-year-old Pena hit a career-low .196 this season with 28 home runs and 84 RBIs for Tampa Bay.

"I'm extremely confident. I don't tend to look back on my failures and dwell upon them," Pena said.

Konerko got a $37.5-million, three-year deal to stay with the White Sox. The 34-year-old hit .312 with 39 home runs and 111 RBIs last season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Almost done

- The meetings end today with the Rule 5 draft, mostly made up of minor league veterans left off 40-man rosters.

Pujols deal unlikely during season: La Russa

Tony La Russa predicts a contract extension for Cardinals star Albert Pujols will come either before spring training or after the season — nothing in between.

"I know Albert well enough that once he gets into spring training, he doesn't like distractions," the Cardinals manager said yesterday at the winter meetings. "I just know once spring training starts, Albert doesn't get distracted by anything."

La Russa said both the Cardinals and Pujols will learn from the sometimes messy public comments made before Derek Jeter agreed Tuesday to a $51-million, three-year contract with the Yankees. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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d-Washington	29	18	8	1	2	96	79	39	12-2-0-2	6-6-1-0	4-4-0-2	L3
d-Montreal	28	18	8	2	0	75	54	38	11-4-2-0	7-4-0-0	6-3-1-0	W3
Philadelphia	29	17	7	2	3	99	74	39	10-5-0-2	7-2-2-1	5-2-0-3	L1
Boston	26	15	8	0	3	75	52	33	6-5-0-2	9-3-0-1	5-3-0-2	W1
Tampa Bay	27	15	9	2	1	84	94	33	7-2-1-1	8-7-1-0	7-2-0-1	W1
Atlanta	28	15	10	1	2	88	80	33	9-5-0-1	6-5-1-1	8-2-0-0	W2
NY Rangers	29	16	12	1	0	83	77	33	6-8-1-0	10-4-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
Buffalo	28	11	13	4	0	70	76	26	5-8-1-0	6-5-3-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Ottawa	29	12	15	1	1	62	85	26	7-7-0-1	5-8-1-0	3-6-0-1	L1
Carolina	26	11	12	0	3	75	84	25	6-5-0-1	5-7-0-2	3-4-0-3	L1
Florida	27	12	15	0	0	70	73	24	6-5-0-0	6-10-0-0	3-7-0-0	L1
Toronto	27	10	13	2	2	61	81	24	7-5-2-1	3-8-0-1	4-5-1-0	L1
New Jersey	27	8	17	1	1	50	81	18	4-6-1-1	4-11-0-0	3-7-0-0	L3
NY Islanders	25	5	15	3	2	53	83	15	3-6-1-1	2-9-2-1	1-6-2-1	L3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	26	17	6	2	1	88	70	37	10-3-1-1	7-3-1-0	5-3-2-0	L3
d-Dallas	27	16	9	0	2	79	74	34	10-3-0-1	6-6-0-1	6-2-0-2	L2
d-Vancouver	25	14	8	1	2	80	64	31	8-3-0-1	6-5-1-1	5-4-1-0	L1
Chicago	30	16	12	1	1	95	87	34	8-8-0-0	8-4-1-1	7-3-0-0	W2
Phoenix	26	13	7	4	2	74	72	32	5-3-2-2	8-4-2-0	7-2-0-1	W1
San Jose	27	14	9	4	0	83	77	32	7-4-2-0	7-5-2-0	5-4-1-0	W2
Nashville	27	13	8	4	2	68	70	32	5-1-3-2	8-7-1-0	5-2-1-2	W1
Columbus	26	15	10	0	1	70	71	31	7-7-0-1	8-3-0-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Anaheim	30	14	13	2	1	74	89	31	9-6-0-1	5-7-2-0	4-5-1-0	W1
Los Angeles	25	15	10	0	0	69	61	30	10-2-0-0	5-8-0-0	3-7-0-0	W2
St. Louis	26	13	9	2	2	67	72	30	8-2-0-1	5-7-2-1	4-5-1-0	W1
Colorado	27	13	10	4	0	94	86	30	7-4-1-0	6-6-3-0	4-3-3-0	L4
Minnesota	26	11	11	1	3	63	76	26	7-6-0-2	4-5-1-1	3-5-1-1	L5
Calgary	28	12	14	1	1	78	84	26	7-6-0-0	5-8-1-1	4-4-1-1	W1
Edmonton	27	10	12	1	4	72	96	25	4-6-1-1	6-6-1-2	6-2-0-2	L1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
San Jose 5 Philadelphia 4 (SO)
Pittsburgh 5 Toronto 2
Nashville 3 Detroit 2
Chicago 5 Dallas 3
Anaheim at Vancouver
Tuesday's results
Anaheim 3 Edmonton 2 (SO)
Boston 3 Buffalo 2 (OT)
Calgary 4 Tampa Bay 2
Florida 4 Colorado 3 (OT)
Montreal 4 Ottawa 1
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
N.Y. Islanders at Boston, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

PENGUINS 5, LEAFS 2

First Period
1. Pittsburgh, Crosby 25 (Kunitz, Cooke) 8:35
Penalties — Toronto bench (too many men; served by Kessel) 5:26, Crosby Pgh (roughing) 6:13, Asham Pgh (roughing) 12:49, Orr Tor, Engelland Pgh (fighting) 15:47.
Second Period
2. Pittsburgh, Dupuis 7 (Kunitz) 11:38 (sh)
3. Pittsburgh, Letestu 5 (Kennedy, Conner) 13:13
4. Pittsburgh, Crosby 26 (Kunitz, Orpik) 14:46
Penalties — Toronto bench (too many men; served by Orr) 5:11, Adams Pgh (boarding) 10:25, Komisarek Tor, Asham Pgh (fighting) 16:03, Kessel Tor (slashing) 16:47, Versteeg Tor (slashing), Fleury Pgh (slashing; served by Conner) 19:44.
Third Period
5. Toronto, Bozak 4 (Kessel, Versteeg) 4:36 (pp)
6. Toronto, Grabovski 7 (Kaberle, Kulemin) 8:38
7. Pittsburgh, Letestu 6 (Kennedy, Goligoski) 17:06
Penalties — Komisarek Tor (roughing, fighting), Rupp Pgh (boarding, fighting) 3:03, Rosehill Tor (charging, fighting), Godard Pgh (instigator, fighting, misconduct), Crosby Pgh (cross-checking, roughing) 3:43, Cooke Pgh (tripping) 9:42.

Shots

Toronto	4	6	15	25
Pittsburgh	13	11	2	26

Goal — Toronto: Gustavsson (L,4-8-2); Pittsburgh: Fleury (W,13-6-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 1-6; Pittsburgh: 0-3. **Att.endance** — 18,158 (18,087) at Pittsburgh.

LATE TUESDAY

DUCKS 3, OILERS 2 (SO)

First Period — No scoring
Penalties Mara Ana (roughing) 3:31.
Second Period
1. Anaheim, Koivu 10 (Selanne, Fowler) 5:44
Penalties — Marchant Ana (hooking) 6:33, Vandermeer Edm (boarding) 11:35, Whitney Edm (hooking) 17:10.
Third Period
2. Anaheim, Selanne 9 (Sutton, Koivu) 6:32
3. Edmonton, Jones 7 (Paajarvi, Gilbert) 10:29
4. Edmonton, Penner 9 (Foster, Gilbert) 13:39 (pp)
Penalties Mara Ana (roughing) 0:11, Jacques Edm (roughing) 0:11, Sutton Ana (interference) 11:41, Gilbert Edm (delay of game) 17:31.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Shootout — (Anaheim wins 2-1)
Anaheim (2) — Lupul, goal; Selanne, miss; Perry, miss; Getzlaf, miss; Koivu, miss; Blake, miss; Ryan, miss; Visnovsky, miss; Lydman, miss; Fowler, goal
Edmonton (1) — Gagner, miss; Eberle, miss; Hall, goal; Brule, miss; Penner, miss; Paajarvi, miss; Jones, miss; Foster, miss; Cogliano, miss; Fraser, miss

Shots

Anaheim	8	9	12	3—32
Edmonton	10	7	15	4—36

Goal (shots-saves) — Anaheim: Hiller (W, 12-11-2, 36-34); Edmonton: Khabibulin (SOL, 6-10-2 , 32-30). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Anaheim: 0-3; Edmonton: 1-3.
Att. — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	24	24	48
Stamkos, TB	21	19	40
Ovechkin, Wash	12	23	35
St. Louis, TB	11	23	34
Semin, Wash	18	15	33
Backstrom, Wash	11	21	32

Not including last night's games

SOCCER

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

First Round
x — clinched berth in second round
THIRD-PLACE TEAMS ADVANCE TO EUROPA LEAGUE
(home teams listed first)
Group A

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Tottenham	6	3	2	1	18	11	11
x-Inter Milan	6	3	1	2	12	11	10
Twente	6	1	3	2	9	11	6
Werder Bremen	6	1	2	3	6	12	5

x — clinched berth in second round
Tuesday's results
Twente 3 Tottenham 3
Werder Bremen 3 Inter Milan 0
Group B

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
x-Schalke	6	4	1	1	10	3	13
x-Lyon	6	3	1	2	11	10	10
Benfica	6	2	0	4	7	12	6
Hapoel Tel Aviv	6	1	2	3	7	10	5

x — clinched berth in second round.
Tuesday's reuslts
Benfica 1 Schalke 2
Lyon 2 Hapoel Tel-Aviv 2
Group C

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Manchester Utd	6	4	2	0	7	1	14
x-Valencia	6	3	2	1	15	4	11
Glasgow Rangers	6	1	3	2	3	6	6
Buraspor	6	0	1	5	2	16	1

Tuesday's results
Bursaspor 1 Glasgow Rangers 1
Manchester United 1 Valencia 1
Group D

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Barcelona	6	4	2	0	14	3	14
x-Copenhagen	6	3	1	2	7	5	10
Rubin Kazan	6	1	3	2	2	4	6
Panathinaikos	6	0	2	4	2	13	2

Tuesday's results
Barcelona 2 Rubin Kazan 0
Copenhagen 3 Panathinaikos 1
Group E

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Bayern Munich	6	5	0	1	16	6	15
x-AS Roma	6	3	1	2	10	9	10
Basel	6	2	0	4	8	11	6
Cluj	6	1	1	4	6	12	4

Yesterday's results
Bayern Munich 3 Basel 0
Cluj 1 AS Roma 1
Group F

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Chelsea	6	5	0	1	14	4	15
x-Marseille	6	4	0	2	12	3	12
Spartak Moscow	6	3	0	3	7	10	9
Zilina	6	0	0	6	3	19	0

Yesterday's results
Marseille 1 Chelsea 0
Zilina 1 Spartak Moscow 2
Group G

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Real Madrid	6	5	1	0	15	2	16
x-AC Milan	6	2	2	2	7	7	8
Ajax	6	2	1	3	6	10	7
Auxerre	6	1	0	5	3	12	3

Yesterday's results
AC Milan 0 Ajax 2
Real Madrid 4 Auxerre 0
Group H

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pt
x-Shakhtar Donetsk	6	5	0	1	12	6	15
x-Arsenal	6	4	0	2	18	7	12
Braga	6	3	0	3	5	11	9
Partizan Belgrade	6	0	0	6	2	13	0

Yesterday's results
Arsenal 3 Partizan Belgrade 1
Shakhtar Donetsk 2 Braga 0
End of First Round

FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP

PLAYOFF

At Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Yesterday's results
Al Wahda (United Arab Emirates) 3 Hekari United (Papua New Guinea) 0

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	17	4	.810	—
d-Orlando	15	6	.714	2
Atlanta	15	8	.652	3
Miami	15	8	.652	3
New York	14	9	.609	4
d-Chicago	12	8	.600	4½
Indiana	10	10	.500	6½
Charlotte	8	13	.381	9
Milwaukee	8	13	.381	9
Toronto	8	14	.364	9½
Philadelphia	7	14	.333	10
Cleveland	7	15	.318	10½
Detroit	7	16	.304	11
Washington	6	14	.300	10½
New Jersey	6	16	.273	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	18	3	.857	—
Dallas	17	4	.810	1
d-L.A. Lakers	15	6	.714	3
d-Utah	16	7	.696	3
New Orleans	14	7	.667	4
Oklahoma City	15	8	.652	4
Denver	13	8	.619	5
Phoenix	11	11	.500	7½
Portland	10	11	.476	8
Memphis	9	14	.391	10
Houston	8	13	.381	10
Golden State	8	14	.364	10½
L.A. Clippers	5	17	.227	13½
Minnesota	5	17	.227	13½
Sacramento	4	15	.211	13

d-division leader
Last night's results
Boston 105 Denver 89
Chicago 88 Cleveland 83
New York 113 Toronto 110
Milwaukee 97 Indiana 95
Oklahoma City 111 Minnesota 103
New Orleans 93 Detroit 74
San Antonio 111 Golden State 94
Memphis 104 Phoenix 98 (OT)
Miami 111 Utah 98
Washington at Sacramento
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday's results
Atlanta 116, New Jersey 101
Charlotte 100, Denver 98
Philadelphia 117, Cleveland 97
Dallas 105, Golden State 100
Houston 97, Detroit 83
Portland 106, Phoenix 99
L.A. Lakers 115, Washington 108
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Boston at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Orlando at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

KNICKS 113, RAPTORS 110

TORONTO (110)
Johnson 3-6 0-0 6, Weems 2-7 4-4 8, Bargnani 16-24 7-9 41, Calderon 5-12 0-0 11, DeRozan 6-11 7-8 19, Davis 0-3 0-0 0, Kleiza 3-11 1-4 8, Barbosa 3-7 0-1 7, Bayless 3-5 4-5 10. Totals 41-86 23-31 110.
NEW YORK (113)
Chandler 6-13 0-0 14, Gallinari 5-13 8-9 20, Stoudemire 15-27 4-4 34, Felton 10-20 6-6 28, Fields 4-9 0-1 9, Douglas 3-6 0-0 7, Turiaf 0-0 1-2 1, Williams 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 43-89 19-22 113.

Toronto	32	25	27	26	110
New York	28	31	25	29	113

3-Point Goals—Toronto 5-16 (Bargnani 2-3, Kleiza 1-3, Barbosa 1-4, Calderon 1-4, Weems 0-1, DeRozan 0-1), New York 8-21 (Felton 2-5, Gallinari 2-5, Chandler 2-6, Fields 1-2, Douglas 1-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Toronto 50 (Bargnani, Kleiza 7), New York 52 (Stoudemire 14). Assists—Toronto 24 (Calderon 7), New York 19 (Felton 11). Total Fouls—Toronto 21, New York 26. Technicals—Calderon, Toronto defensive three second 2.
A—19,763 (19,763) at New York

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with 1B Paul Konerko on a three-year contract.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with C Paul Phillips on a minor league contract.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Agreed to terms with OF Jeff Francoeur on a one-year contract.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with 1B Carlos Pena on a one-year contract.

FOOTBALL

NFL

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed CB Brandon Ghee on injured reserve. Signed LB Vincent Rey from the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Placed CB Al Harris on injured reserve. Signed OL Ray Feinga.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Placed RB Ladell Betts on injured reserve. Signed LB Kawika Mitchell.
NEW YORK JETS — Released WR Laveranues Coles. Signed S Emanuel Cook. Released OT Andre Ramsey from the practice squad.
ST. LOUIS RAMS — Signed LB David Nixon. Signed LB Maurice Simpkins to the practice squad.

HOCKEY

NHL

BOSTON BRUINS — Recalled D Steve Kampfer from Providence (AHL) on an emergency basis.
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled F Jeremy Morin and F Rob Klinkhammer from Rockford (AHL). Placed F Marian Hossa on injured reserve.
DALLAS STARS — Recalled G Richard Bachman from Texas (AHL) on emergency conditions.
DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned D Jakub Kindl to Grand Rapids (AHL) for conditioning.

AHL

NORFOLK ADMIRALS — Signed F Pierre-Cedric Labrie to a two-year contract.
WORCESTER SHARKS — Re-signed F Jonathan Cheechoo.

SNOWBOARDING

SNOWBOARDCROSS

At Leach Am Arlberg, Austria
Women
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 1,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 800; 3. Alexandra Jekova, Bulgaria, 600
World Cup Snowboardcross Standings
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 2,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 1,600; 3. Alexandra Jekova, Bulgaria, 1,000
Overall World Cup Standings
1. Dominique Maltais, Petite-Riviere-St-Francois, Que., 2,000 points; 2. Maelle Ricker, Whistler, B.C., 1,600; 3. Ekaterina Tudegesheva, Russia, 1,000
Men
1. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,000 points; 2. Alex Pullin, Australia, 800; 3. Paul-Henri De le Rue, France, 600; **Also: 8. Francois Boivin, Jonquiere, Que., 320; 10. Robert Fagan, Cranbrook, B.C., 260.**
World Cup Snowboardcross Standings
1. Nate Holland, U.S., 1,200 points; 2. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,160; 3. Mario Fuchs, Austria, 1,100
Overall World Cup Standings
1. Nate Holland, U.S., 1,200 points; 2. Luca Matteotti, Italy, 1,160; 3. Mario Fuchs, Austria, 1,110; 4. Andreas Promegger, Austria, 1,000; 5. Paul-Henri De le Rue, France, 890.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	2	0	.833	379	269
N.Y. Jets	9	3	0	.750	267	232
Miami	6	6	0	.500	215	238
Buffalo	2	10	0	.167	243	333
SOUTH						
Jacksonville	7	5	0	.583	257	300
Indianapolis	6	6	0	.500	317	290
Houston	5	7	0	.417	288	321
Tennessee	5	7	0	.417	263	235
NORTH						
Pittsburgh	9	3	0	.750	267	191
Baltimore	8	4	0	.667	260	201
Cleveland	5	7	0	.417	229	239
Cincinnati	2	10	0	.167	255	322
WEST						
Kansas City	8	4	0	.667	295	237
Oakland	6	6	0	.500	283	269
San Diego	6	6	0	.500	323	253
Denver	3	9	0	.250	256	333

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	8	4	0	.667	308	247
Philadelphia	8	4	0	.667	344	281
Washington	5	7	0	.417	222	293
Dallas	4	8	0	.333	294	336
SOUTH						
Atlanta	10	2	0	.833	304	233
New Orleans	9	3	0	.750	299	227
Tampa Bay	7	5	0	.583	243	251
Carolina	1	11	0	.083	154	307
NORTH						
Chicago	9	3	0	.750	246	192
Green Bay	8	4	0	.667	303	182
Minnesota	5	7	0	.417	227	253
Detroit	2	10	0	.167	278	306
WEST						
Seattle	6	6	0	.500	240	289
St. Louis	6	6	0	.500	232	237
San Francisco	4	8	0	.333	203	259
Arizona	3	9	0	.250	200	338

WEEK 14

Tonight's game
(All times Eastern)
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's games
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Washington, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at New Orleans, 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Denver at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.
New England at Chicago, 4:15 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's game
Baltimore at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

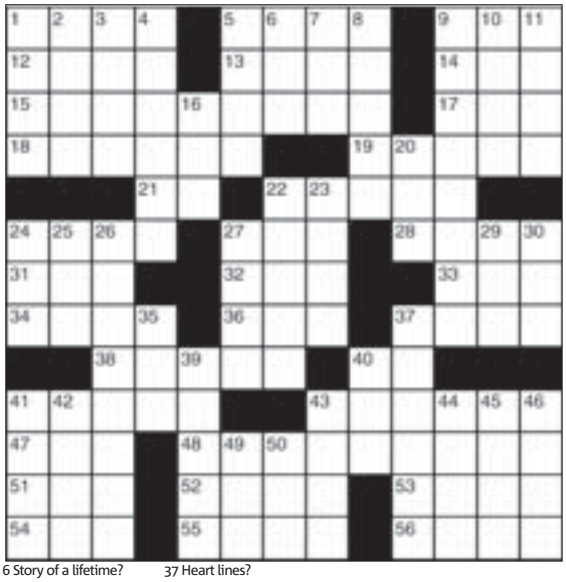
GOLF

LPGA TOUR QUALIFYING

At Daytona Beach, Fla.
Par 72
First Round

Reilley Rankin	34-33—67
Libby Smith	34-33—67
Aree Song	34-33—67
Belen Mozo	33-35—68
Pernilla Lindberg	32-36—68
Jimin Jeong	34-35—69
Ayaka Kaneko	34-35—69
Angela Buzminski	**36-34—70**
Ashleigh Simon	37-33—70
Dewi Claire Schreefel	33-37—70
Angela Oh	35-35—70
Mollie Fankhauser	37-33—70
Shasta Averyhardt	35-35—70

Crossword



Across

1 Minuscule bit
5 Lend an illegal hand
9 Eviscerate
12 Trademark symbol
13 Old Italian money
14 Spring mo.
15 Travel while campaigning
17 Fish eggs
18 Mono alternative
19 Minimal change
21 Yoked beast
22 Saw
24 "The Amazing —"
27 Bear hair
28 Pirates' quaff
31 Geological period
32 Anger
33 Mate of 37-Across
34 Predicate necessity
36 Legislation
37 Mate of 33-Across
38 Cancels out
40 "Forget it!"
41 "— Foolish Things"
43 One side of the Urals
47 Old garment
48 "Phooey!"
51 Clay, today
52 Incite
53 On the briny
54 "Ulalume" writer
55 "Desire Under the —"
56 Ollie's pal

Down

1 Church vestments
2 Perfectly
3 Fairy tale baddie
4 Fifth President
5 Choir member
6 Story of a lifetime?
7 Screw up
8 Florida city
9 Accumulated
10 Informed about
11 Deuce beater
16 Gender
20 Early bird?
22 Emanations
23 TV host Carey
24 Gun the engine
25 Exist
26 Noted steel tycoon
27 Stuff
29 Eggs
30 Prized possession
35 Clear the tables
37 Heart lines?
39 Sill
40 Rapa — (Easter Island)
41 Snare
42 Head light?
43 Tackles' teammates
44 Brewer's kiln
45 Entreaty
46 Vivacity
49 "You've got mail" co.
50. Aries

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

5			2		9			6
	9		8		1		3	
		8				9		
		9	3		7	1		
2								9
		3	5		6	4		
		6				7		
	2		7		3		5	
4			6		8			1

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

This time last year, I wondered when the girl of my dreams would make her grand entrance. Thanks to you sweetheart, I am no longer asking this question. It has been a wonderful experience for me to be journeying through this part of my life. I would like you to know how grateful I am to have you in my life. **SURUJPAUL**

Muah! Sending a birthday kiss to a very special someone...May you continue to be the handsome, loving, and talented young man you are...I am so happy to share another birthday with you babe. Love you SO much. **P.**

Jayman, you make the happiest person ever! I am the luckiest girl ever to have you. I love you more than anything and Xmas break can't come soon enough. MISS YOU **YOUR SARE-BEAR**

A look at the weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Min -2°	Min -15°	Min -19°
Max -2°	Max -12°	Max -7°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Keep reminding yourself that all things are possible. The obstacles you encounter today are not there to stop you but to encourage you to climb higher.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You'll feel a lot more confident about your prospects today, even though nothing much has actually changed. Maybe you can sense that it won't be long before a more positive and productive cycle begins.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Try to deal with people who annoy you with courtesy. It may be easier to lose your temper, and you may have every reason to do so, but a more considerate approach will work wonders.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Stay on top of your workload today. If you let things slide, you will find it difficult to catch up later. The best way to get things done and still have time to yourself is to delegate. Trust those with whom you work.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Be assured that the efforts you make, both at home and at work, will pay off. It may seem as if you are putting yourself out for no gain, but important changes are taking place behind the scenes.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 It would appear that you are taking certain issues far too seriously. OK, so others may be behaving in ways that you do not approve of, but so what?

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Resist the temptation to draw attention to something that is likely to embarrass a loved one or friend. It may be good for a laugh but it will be held against you. Be nice.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Money matters and business issues are good, but that does not mean you have the green light to get involved in something that clearly has unacceptable risks. Can you afford to lose a fortune?

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 A dispute of some kind is likely today. But with any luck, it will be over as quickly as it started. Even without luck you are advised not to take it seriously.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You seem to be expecting too much of yourself and need to lower your sights. One of the reasons you are aiming so high is because you think you have to prove yourself to others. You don't.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Everyone is born with a special talent. If you don't know yet what yours is, it's about time you found out. What is it you do best? What is it that comes easiest to you?

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 If you stay calm while others are getting annoyed, you will make a big impression on employers and colleagues. Yes, you have leadership qualities. **SALLY BROMPTON**

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